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Colorado Springs Independent

RAIN AND THE WALDO CANYON BURN SCAR 17 THERE WILL BE FLOOD

By J. Adrian Stanley

Kathy Conarro

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Two months late for Squirrel Appreciation Day.

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By hook or by crook
Directed by assistant professor of theatre Kevin Landis, UCCS' production of *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson* is a rowdy good time. If the music sometimes lacks punch, the student performers more than make up for it with their manic energy and campy, over-the-top humor.

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Appetite:
Overhauled icon
If you've lived here a while, you have your own association with the Ritz Grill, be it for business lunch, happy hour, late-night dancing, etc. Mine was post-wait-shift beers a dozen years ago.

And up until last month, not much had changed since.

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End Zone:
Your best bracket tips
If you're like most people, you didn't really follow college basketball this season — until the NCAA Tournament bracket came out Sunday. Now you want to become an instant expert to win big bucks in that office pool, or of course, in the *Indy*-sponsored online contest at marchtothechampionship.com.

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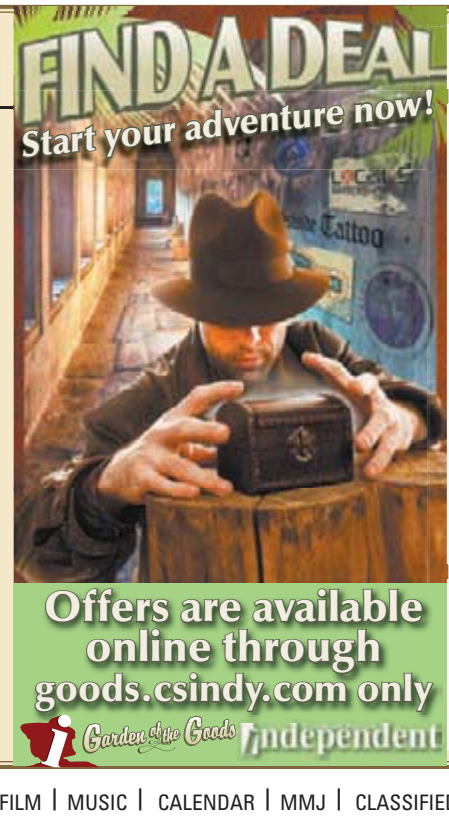
On the Cover
Illustration and design by art director Kathy Conarro.

UpComing

New to town? Just visiting? Either way, we've got you covered with our annual ***InSider*** guide to the Pikes Peak region.

Watch for the insert in our April 3 issue of the *Indy*. Then pull it out and save it for when you need to find just the perfect place to eat, drink, shop, or fill your need for getting out and about town.



You ARE A Winner!

Regrow Colorado Benefit Concert: Pair of tickets
Karley Ford
Anna Horton

***Lord of the Dance*: Pair of tickets**
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Perry Adams

PDD March 23 bout: 4-pack of tickets
Matthew Mitchem
Nancy Stavish

Be A Winner!

SPANK! The Fifty Shades Parody. The hilarious new musical that brings all the naughty fun of the best-selling book to life is coming to the Pikes Peak Center on April 7 for one night only. You could win a pair of free tickets in this week's IndyBlast! Sign up at csindy.com.

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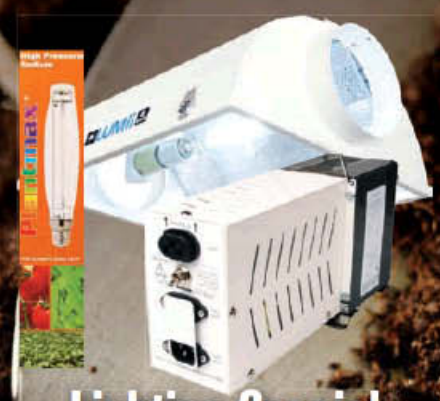

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SliceOfLife

Bradley Flora

A tense room at City Hall rejoiced March 12 when oil and gas regulations that would have allowed for fracking within city limits were defeated 4-4.

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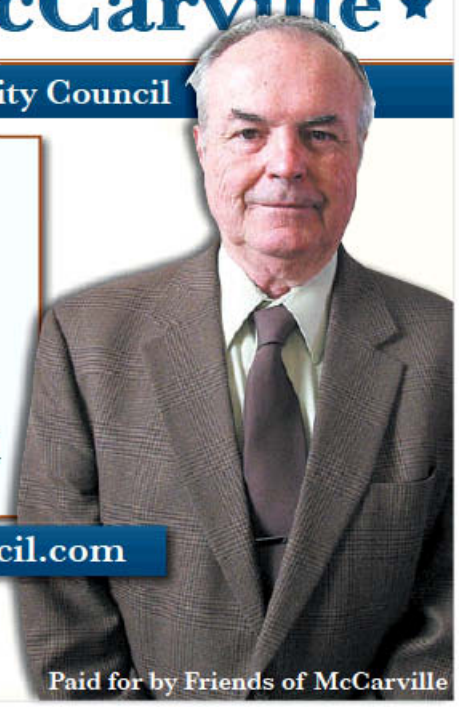

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Letters

Editor, 235 S. Nevada Ave., CS, CO 80903 • e-mail: letters@csindy.com

If your comments are mailed or e-mailed to us, we'll consider them for publication — unless you request otherwise. Please include your name, city of residence and a daytime phone number for verification.

Move it forward

I didn't think I would see in my lifetime civil unions recognized in Colorado. Colorado has been battered by the religious extremists with anti-gay legislation, Amendment 2 and countless embarrassing moments in the national news. We were called the Hate State. We lost untold opportunities for companies to move to El Paso County because of the extremists who made our city unwelcoming to the young creative talent needed for these businesses. In fact, our talented workers are leaving El Paso County for places higher on the "cool" list, such as Portland, Seattle and Austin.

Now, we have the City Council elections, and we can vote for more of the same or finally change our path.

In the "more of the same" category we have one of the founding fathers of Amendment 2, Ed Bircham, and his cohorts Al Loma, Helen Collins, David Moore and Roger McCarville. It is sad that the daily newspaper even sees these throwbacks as viable candidates. Along with the throwbacks, we have Keith King, who joined the Bircham extremists and co-sponsored a bill to allow companies to deny birth control coverage to women employees last year when he was a state senator.

We can say No More to the hateful, antiquated ideas of yesteryear, and finally move our city forward with the youth and brilliance of Brandy Williams and Jill Gaebler. Please vote for those who are not part of the status quo. It took 20 years to beat Amendment 2 and have equality for all in Colorado. Please don't send us backward with City Council.

— Carolyn Cathey
Colorado Springs

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

'It was probably marginally a good thing, but nowhere near as good as what we thought.'

— Dov Zakheim, former U.S. undersecretary of defense, on whether the Iraq war — which started 10 years ago this week — was worth it, via thedailybeast.com.

Teaching Deborah

I read the Focus on the Family candidate surveys. I was amazed to read the reply of Council candidate Deborah Hendrix to naming "the political leader you most admire."

Her choice was Lyndon Johnson because he "was literally crucified for his decisions."

I must have missed that. I know two other Democratic presidents were impeached (but not convicted in the Senate): Andrew Johnson and Bill Clinton. Most leaders are criticized, but an actual crucifixion is news. Why did the liberal media cover it up?

Let's ask Deborah some follow-up questions. Did Capitol Hill serve as Calvary? Did the Capitol basement serve as his tomb? Does she even know the difference between "literally" and "figuratively" or "metaphorically?"

This is the president of a school board?

— June Heimsoth
Colorado Springs

LongStoryShort

In 2006, floodwaters off the Hayman burn scar destroyed miles of State Highway 67, shutting down the road and isolating the poor folks in Deckers.

My husband and I, both curious types, decided to take a road trip to check out the damage. We followed the highway through the burnt hills, noting the places where homes had been spared by the fire — just barely. It had been years since all those acres burned, but the hills seemed frozen in time, still dark and bleak.

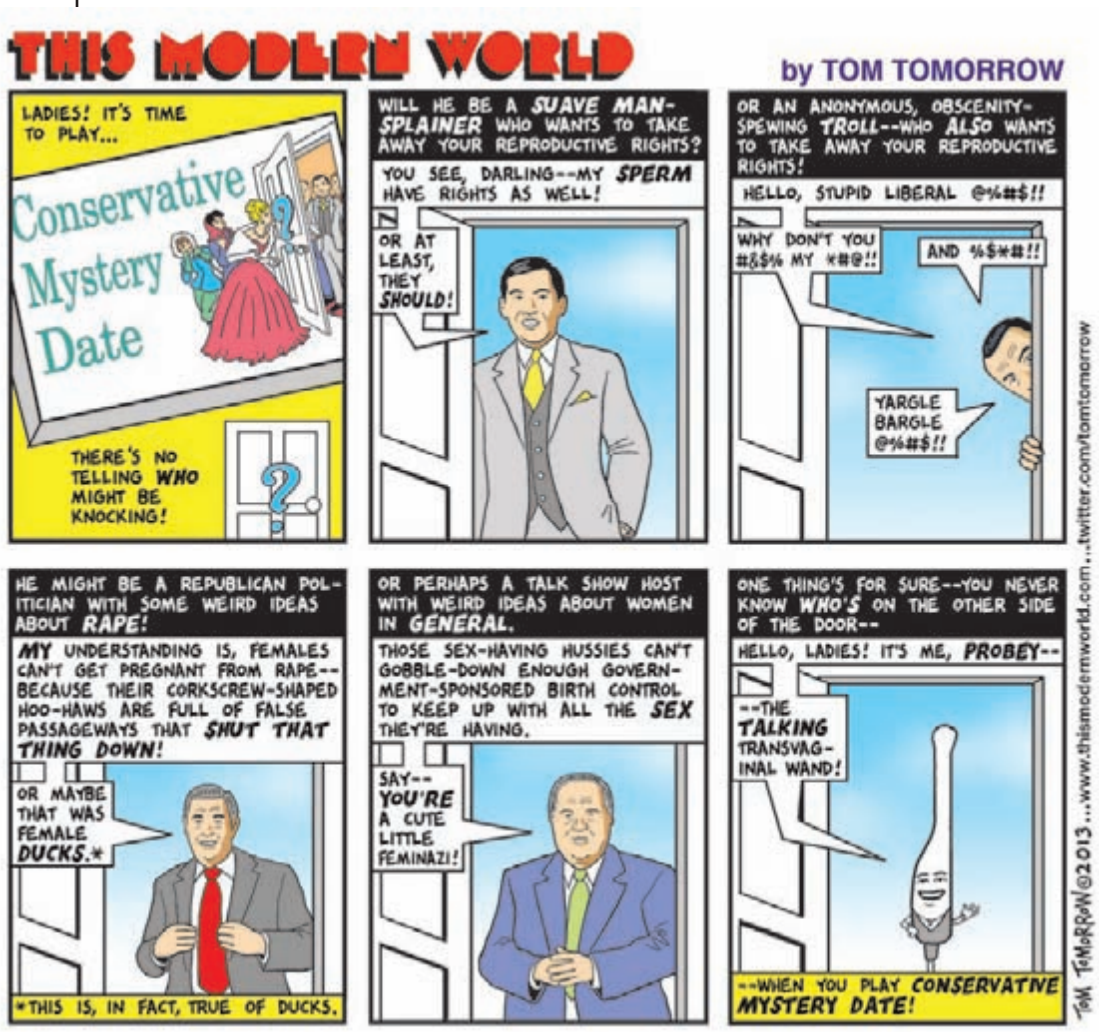
We reached the point where the highway was closed and took out our mountain bikes, riding past the barricades. Soon we could see that the creek along the highway — a merry little stream, at this point — had thrown huge chunks of asphalt downhill. It had widened, flowing over where the road had once been. Sand and mud were everywhere.

It was sort of terrifying, like stumbling upon the wake created by a monster.

I've thought a lot about that scene since the Waldo Canyon Fire burned the hills near my own home. Like those homes I saw on the roadside, mine was spared by the fire. But I can't help but wonder if my home — and those of so many of my neighbors — survived the fire only to be swept away in the flood.

The creek near my home looks innocent enough, but flood maps — one of which is printed with our cover story, starting on p. 17 — paint it wide, like a great blue snake. Its belly is full of houses, including a good part of mine.

— J. Adrian Stanley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by TOM TOMORROW
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HE MIGHT BE A REPUBLICAN POLITICIAN WITH SOME WEIRD IDEAS ABOUT RAPE!
MY UNDERSTANDING IS, FEMALES CAN'T GET PREGNANT FROM RAPE--BECAUSE THEIR CORKSCREW-SHAPED HOO-HAWS ARE FULL OF FALSE PASSAGEWAYS THAT SHUT THAT THING DOWN!
OR MAYBE THAT WAS FEMALE DUCKS.*
*THIS IS, IN FACT, TRUE OF DUCKS.
OR PERHAPS A TALK SHOW HOST WITH WEIRD IDEAS ABOUT WOMEN IN GENERAL.
THOSE SEX-HAVING HUSSIES CAN'T GOBBLE-DOWN ENOUGH GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED BIRTH CONTROL TO KEEP UP WITH ALL THE SEX THEY'RE HAVING.
SAY-- YOU'RE A CUTE LITTLE FEMINAZI!
ONE THING'S FOR SURE--YOU NEVER KNOW WHO'S ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE DOOR--
HELLO, LADIES! IT'S ME, PROBEY--
--THE TALKING TRANSVAGINAL WAND!
--WHEN YOU PLAY CONSERVATIVE MYSTERY DATE!
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No nonsense

I read with interest Pam Zubeck's feature article on the mayor and City Council ("Chris cross," cover story, March 6). Zubeck made a mighty attempt at being fair. The other side features Mayor Bach as an autocratic almost-dictator.

Is that fair? I don't know. What I do know is the current Council has become divided and divisive. Council has been in the mindset of studying each issue to death with committees, outside studies and internal bickering over power between the city staff and themselves.

Bach is a doer and decision-maker. Council is cautious and sometimes afraid to make those tough decisions.

Will it change with a new Council? Soon we will see if those elected are power-hungry people wanting to prove their worth by challenging the mayor. Or will there be some cohesiveness by adding some open-minded members who are interested in moving the city forward? What about all the openness that was promised?

Some Councilors from the last election have stayed hidden in the weeds. A couple have joined the fray without any concerns about political fallout.

Isn't it time to stop some of this nonsense and get back to the Mayor Bob approach? Let's quit looking only at the Martin Drake Power Plant and downtown. What about the Powers corridor? What about Black Forest? What about Mountain Shadows and Cedar Heights?

We need to broaden our scope. There are several means to make rational, informed decisions about our next Council. Spend the time and effort to not only read the *Gazette*'s and *Independent*'s recommendations, but listen and read their positions on major issues. This is a critical time for all of Colorado Springs. Be a part of the process by being an informed voter!

— Duane C. Slocum
Colorado Springs

Bloat reduction

Get Involved has moved to Volunteer Opportunities (p. 50) for the week.

elections. The questions put to the candidates overwhelmingly focused on social issues.

What if city government had the freedom to concentrate on streets, bridges and trails along with public safety, and only these issues? All schools would be private and Internet-based. Solar-powered Internet stations should occupy a currently vacant building in every neighborhood. All private businesses would be allowed to compete unfettered, and without incentives from taxpayers. Churches would pay taxes on their real estate. Tourism would thrive on the merits of our attractions alone, without millions of dollars paying for TV ads in Texas. I didn't go to Paris because somebody created a slick ad campaign.

This government is bloated beyond belief. We can cut so much waste, and turn on every street light.

Government should get out of social issues. I don't care if you're selling shoes or salvation. Church real estate (some of these holdings are rentals or create income) has enjoyed a free ride long enough.

— Kenton Lloyd
Colorado Springs

Party like it's 1956

Although I generally view Jim Hightower's LowDown column as a bit too liberal and inapplicable to current public debate, his "Let's adopt the GOP platform" (March 6) was instructive for those trying to make sense of Washington's inability to address our nation's problems.

Comparing the Republican Party's platform of 2013 to that of 1956 clearly highlights how far to the political-spectrum right they have moved. While an exhaustive study would also compare the Democratic Party to similar measures, such a change in the GOP platform has rendered much legislation inactive.

My question is: Has the American public turned so conservative as well, or does it just not care about what its elected officials do anymore?

— Joel Imrie
Colorado Springs

The military's two faces

I'm just going to say it: I'm anti-military. I love my wife, I love Jesus, and I love America, but I do not like the military.

But saying that you're anti-military is sort of like saying that you're anti-business. What sort of business? Multinational corporations running child-labor sweatshops in the back alleys of Indonesia? Or the nice couple who run the deli and special-order weird cheeses for me?

Just as there are very different things that we call "business," there are very different things that we call "military."

We refer to the bureaucrats at the Pentagon as, "the military." I don't much like them because they dream up stuff like, "Future Force" and "Global Reach" and the Piñon Canyon, Multi-National, High-tech, 6.9-million-acre, Weapons-Testing 51st Flippin' State.

We also refer to the command structure at major bases as "the military." I don't much like them, either: the Army brass at Fort Carson who buckle under pressure from defense contractors, and the elected officials who work to advance their corporate economic interests and ensure their own career futures.

But I also refer to the 18-year-old kids who greet me at the Piñon Canyon Open House as "the military." They come, disproportionately, from rural America. They return from combat to discover that most people have paid little attention to the wars. But for them its horrors are a reality that they can't forget. Of course I'm not anti-them!

They often suffer from what has been labeled post-traumatic stress disorder. Like "shell-shock" and "battle-fatigue," "PTSD" is a euphemism which fails to capture the truth. It actually describes the condition of having physically survived hell and being barely able to function in society with the mental and spiritual damage suffered.

There's a big difference between supporting these young people and supporting the military-industrial complex.

— Doug Holdread
Trinidad

Bless the beasts

I was delighted to learn that the newly elected pope chose for himself the name of St. Francis of Assisi, generally known as patron saint of the animals. Indeed, Catholic and Anglican churches hold ceremonies blessing animals on his feast day of Oct. 4.

I hope that Pope Francis will inspire Catholics and all persons of goodwill to show non-human animals the respect and compassion they so richly deserve, particularly when it comes to subsidizing their abuse and slaughter for food at the checkout counter. Joining the Meatless Mondays trend may be a good start.

— Claus Singer
Colorado Springs

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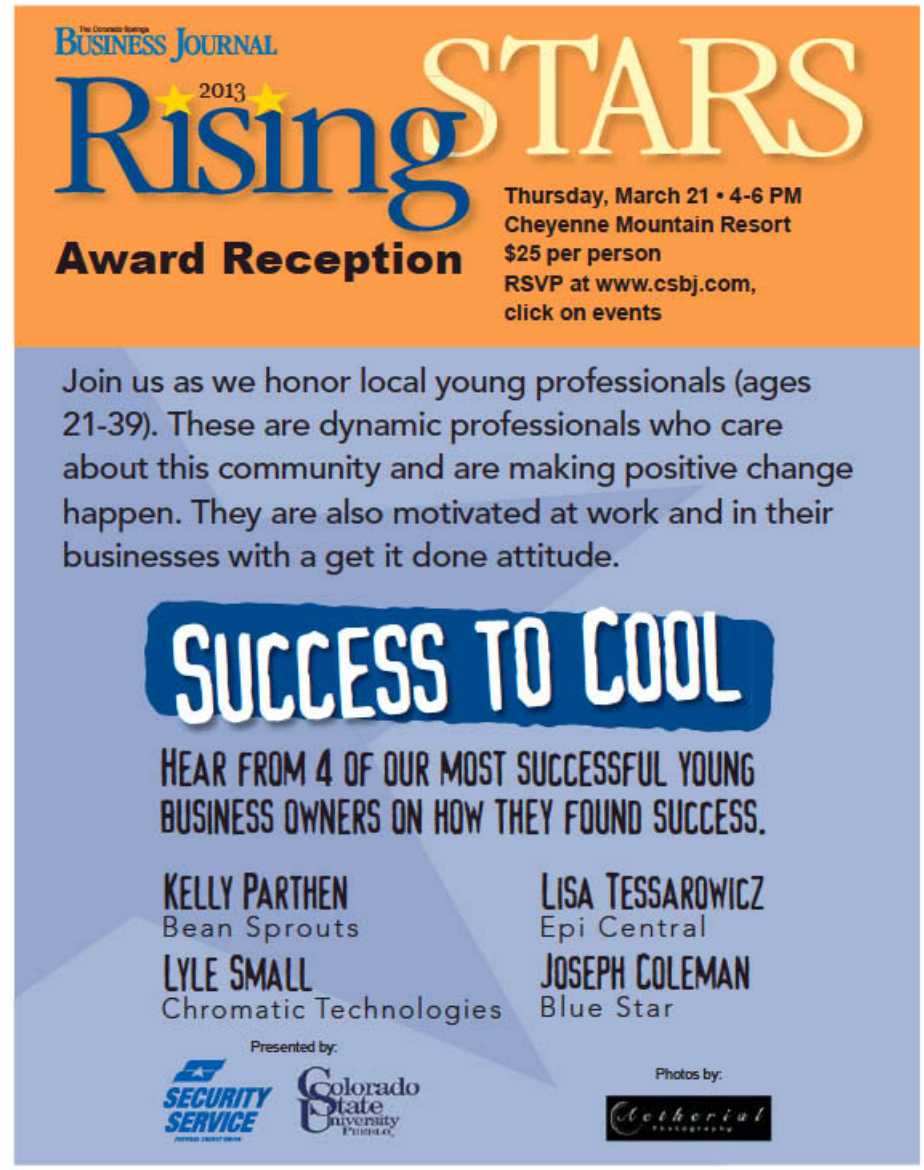
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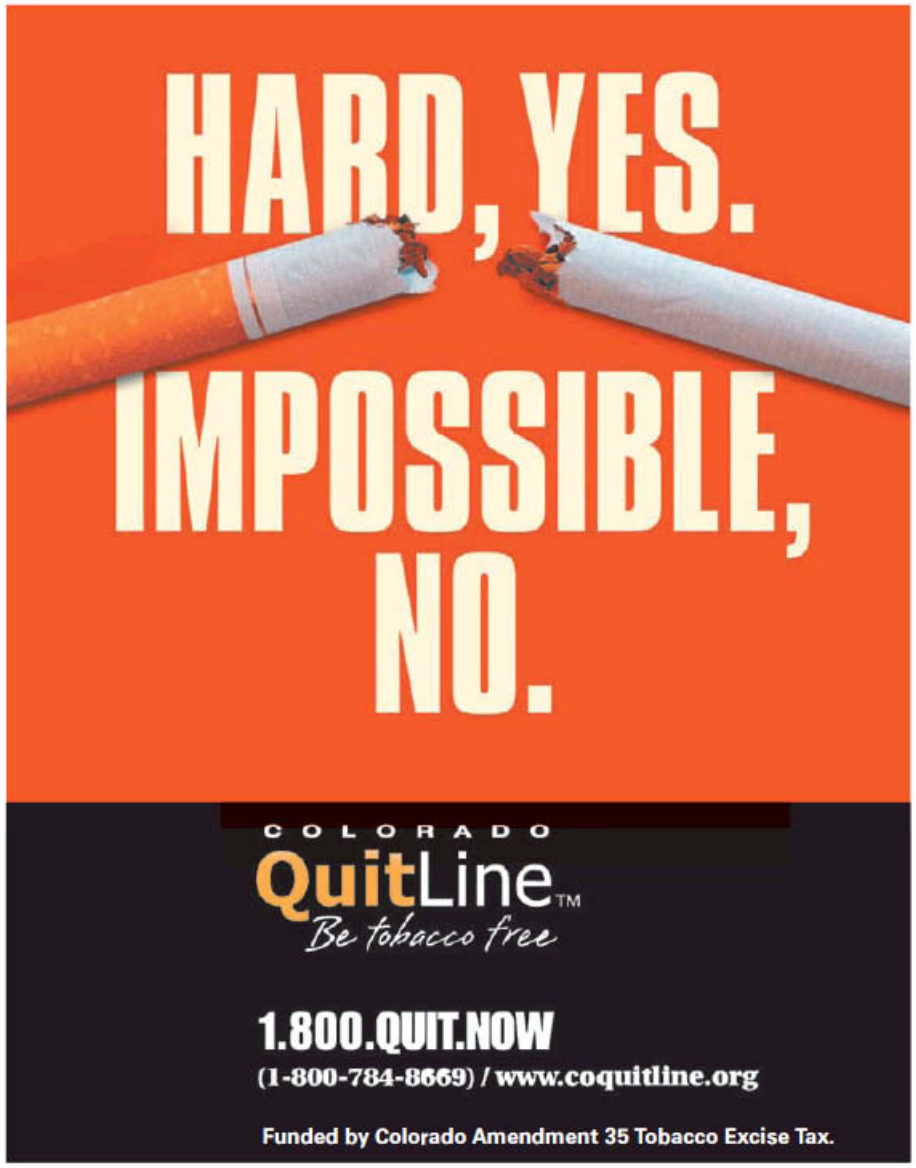


CitySage

By John Hazlehurst

Another downtown project?

We all want to rebuild our downtown, don't we? We want to kick the parking lot magnates in the butt and somehow persuade them to rip up the asphalt and build something. Maybe mixed-use, low-rise retail/apartment structures, multi-story hotel/condo complexes — anything!

Without remaking downtown Colorado Springs as a diverse employment/entertainment/residential center, much of the city will continue to decay. Young families will flee to the periphery, followed by retailers, employers, apartment builders and city infrastructure investment.

Live by growth, die by growth. **William Butler Yeats** understood: "Things fall apart, the center cannot hold."

It was interesting to read City Council candidate responses to a questionnaire that the Downtown Partnership posted on its website. **Brandy Williams**, **Jill Gaebler** and **Bernie Herpin** were thoughtful and creative (especially Williams), but **Jim Bensberg** made one devastatingly simple point.

"My hope," Bensberg wrote, "is that no more historic structures, like the Burns/Chief Theater, are razed. In visiting other cities across the country, I think the most interesting aspects are the old original buildings and the relevance they have to the present. Fort Collins comes to mind. So, my motto is: First, do no harm."

The building will stand on its corner for centuries.

Eternal vigilance may be the price of liberty, but it's also the price of preservation. Historic structures outlive their original uses, lose value through deterioration and disuse, and suddenly face the wrecker's ball or the kind of renovation that diminishes rather than enhances their value. That's why it makes sense to discuss the future of one of downtown's finest buildings — the **Winfield Scott Stratton** post office, at the corner of Pikes Peak and Nevada avenues.

Stratton donated the land for the building, but it took years to pry construction money from the federal government. Congress appropriated funds in 1902 and passed seven additional appropriation bills between 1902 and 1911, when the structure was finally completed. One such appropriation included an additional $15,000 to use granite instead of sandstone, while the final appropriation funded the roof balustrade.

James Knox Taylor, who headed the Treasury Department's "Office of the Supervising Architect," was the building's architect of record. Taylor knew what he wanted: "The department [has] decided to adopt the classical style of architecture," he wrote in 1901. "The experience of centuries has demonstrated that no form of architecture is so pleasing to the vast mass of mankind as the classic. ... The government therefore enjoys in its building operations a tremendous opportunity for good in the judgment of all who regard architecture as one of the important factors of the higher civilization."

Taylor built for the ages. Like Stratton's magnificent Mining Exchange Building across the street to the west, the downtown post office will stand on its corner for centuries, even millennia — if we care for it.

Our post office has yet to appear on the Postal Service's list of aging buildings planned for sale or closure, but it undoubtedly will. Post offices, to paraphrase **Arlo Guthrie**'s "City of New Orleans," suffer from the disappearing mail-delivery blues.

What should it become: a museum, art gallery or restaurant? I asked **Perry Sanders**, the visionary who created the Wyndham hotel out of the old Mining Exchange, at the adjacent Springs Orleans on a recent balmy evening.

"I want that building," he said. "That's a Stratton building. It goes with the Mining Exchange. I'd have to figure out a use for it, though. ... Let's go measure it."

Leaving our spouses at the bar, we walked to the post office and measured.

"It's about 120 by 120 [feet]," Sanders mused. "Two stories plus a basement — high ceilings on the first floor, then the second, and the roof — love the balustrade ..."

Then he laid out plans for re-use that seemed practical, achievable, logical and, potentially, amazing. That was off the record, so the details will have to wait. But much as I love the venerable old post office, I can't wait for Sanders to buy it and start renovations. And if Sanders isn't the buyer, let's hope it doesn't go to any tear-down artists.

As Bensberg says, "First, do no harm."

— hazlehurst@csindy.com

LocalView

By Richard Skorman

Say 'yes' on TOPS issue

Last week, the *Indy* urged you to "vote no" on Issue 1, the Trails, Open Space and Parks adjustment, because it "could decimate TOPS."

Let's be clear. Issue 1 will not reduce any TOPS funding. Right now, at least 60 percent of the TOPS money has to be spent on purchasing open space, while only 20 percent can be spent on building new trails and 20 percent on building new parks.

If Issue 1 passes, the TOPS open space and trails accounts will remain untouched. The only change will come to how the parks category is spent. Decimate? No. Allocate more wisely? Yes.

Issue 1 is on the ballot because the Mayor's Parks Solutions Team, which I chaired, discovered that the annual cost to maintain our parks will outstrip revenues by $3.5 million in just six years. That figure doesn't include approximately $40 million in deferred maintenance and renovations needed for our aging parks infrastructure.

Don't throw a good idea out the window because of fear.

If we don't head off this impending "train wreck," we will likely lose a good amount of that infrastructure, and indeed our parks may turn brown once again.

Despite the "train wreck" coming, there is $4 million sitting unspent in the TOPS parks account — which could grow to $21 million by the sunset of the tax in 2025. That's because there isn't a willingness from parks staff and their boards to recommend spending that money on building new parks when we don't have funds to renovate and maintain what we have.

So about a year ago, the Trails and Open Space Coalition Advocacy Committee came up with a great idea. Why not allow some or all of the parks' portion of the TOPS tax to also be used for "renovation and maintenance of existing parks"? All those involved — the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and staff, the TOPS Advisory Committee, the mayor, City Council, the TOSC board and the Parks Solutions Team — agreed it was a great idea. Hence, Issue 1.

It didn't make sense to be forced to build only new parks that cost the city $9,200 an acre per year to maintain when we can't maintain what we have. We hoped that some of that "new park-building" money could be used not only to renovate decaying park infrastructure before we have to replace it at a higher cost, but also to retrofit old irrigation systems and replace water-intensive bluegrass to make our parks more sustainable.

In other words, allow the "flexibility" to spend "some" of that money today, to save in the future. And that's exactly what staff and the park board are recommending if Issue 1 passes.

So why have the TOSC board and the *Indy* opposed Issue 1? Because it doesn't contain a maintenance of effort (MOE) clause — ballot language to help ensure that the current park funding levels in the general fund would not be replaced with TOPS money.

In lieu of an MOE, the mayor wrote a letter and Council unanimously passed a resolution stating their intentions to keep general-fund park funding "at least" at current levels — except in the case of a "dire" emergency. Council underlined and capitalized its intention in its resolution, and the mayor was even quoted saying it "would be unethical" to do otherwise.

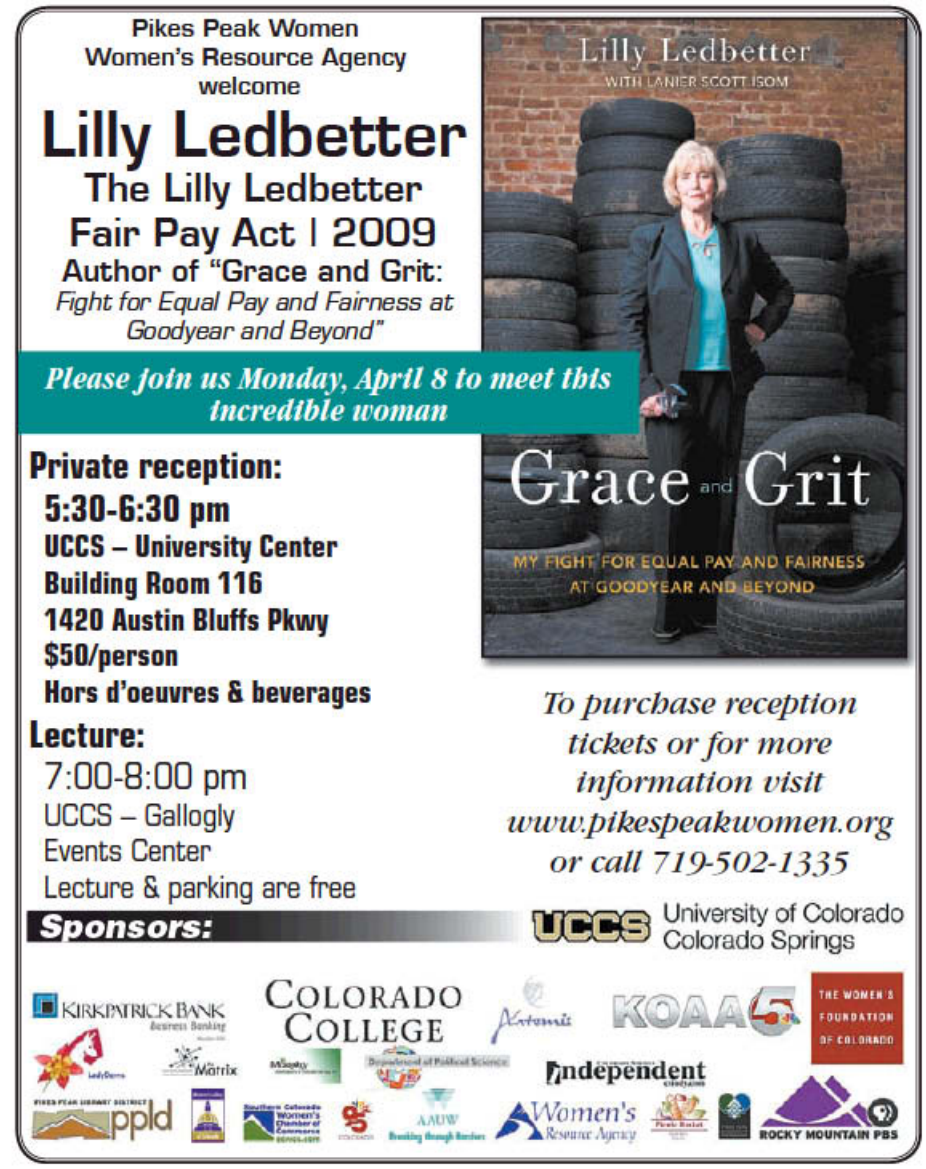
These assurances in mind, the TOSC board was set to reconsider its position as of press time. But what happens if the *Indy* gets its way and Issue 1 fails?

Our older parks will continue to degrade, causing more long-term burdens on the system. We won't invest much in efficient landscaping and irrigation systems. We will have to make tough cutback choices in a few years when the "train wreck" comes.

Meanwhile, we will continue to stockpile money in an account that nobody wants to spend, or be forced to build new parks we can't maintain. And, if we have to ask for a new tax in the future, we will not have earned voters' trust.

Here's my recommendation: Don't throw a good idea out the window because of fear. If this mayor or Council, or future ones, pull "a fast one," we should bring out the tar and feathers. But let's give them the benefit of the doubt until then. With TOPS money and park funding, you never have to worry about having enough eyes on the prize.

Richard Skorman is former vice mayor of Colorado Springs and chair of the Parks Solutions Team.



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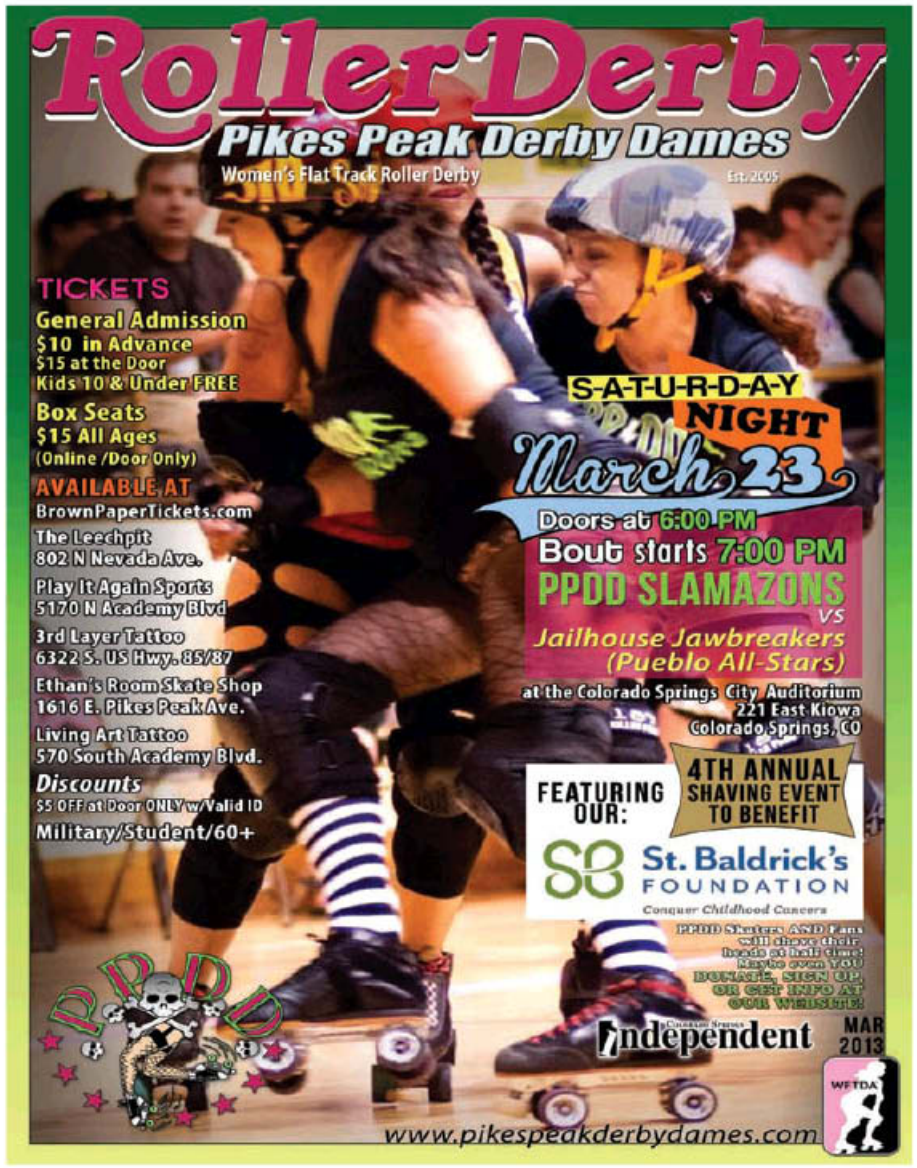

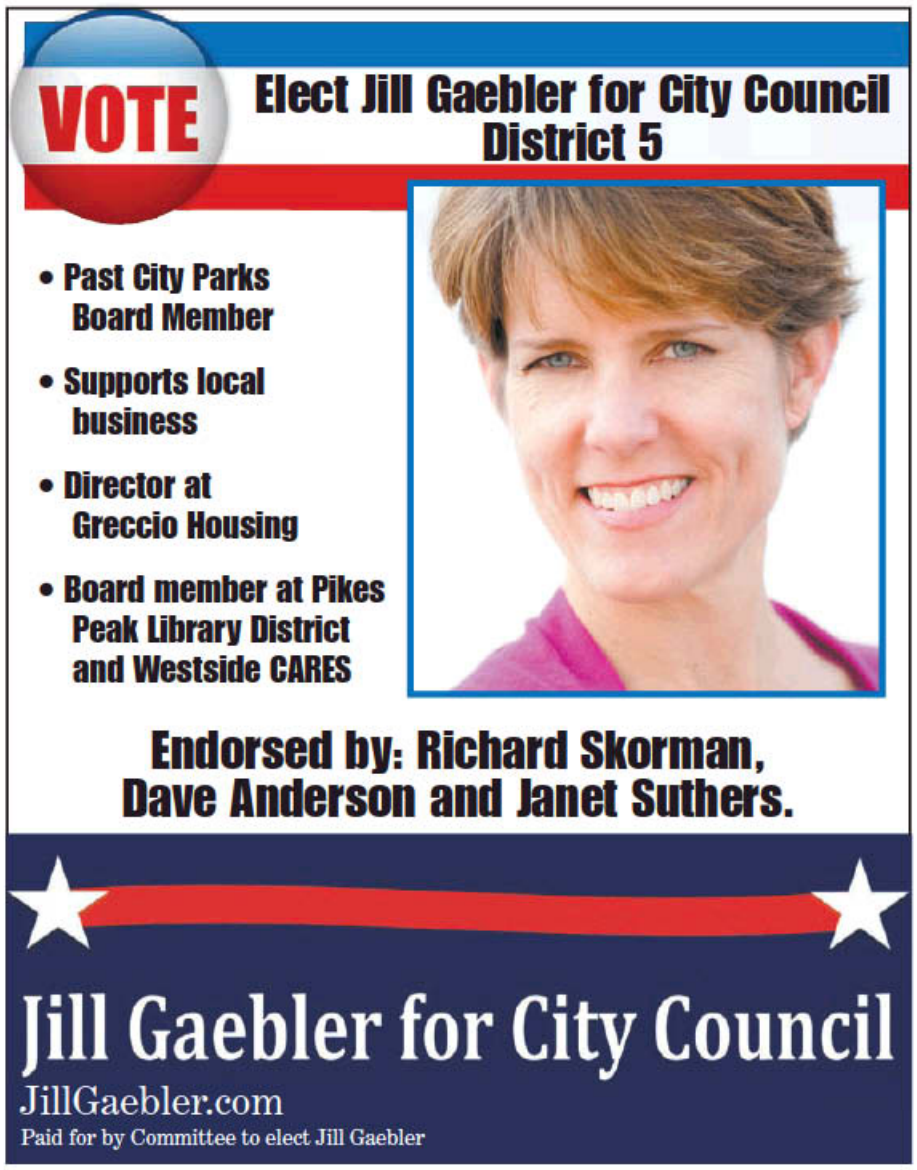
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BetweentheLines

By Ralph Routon

Cuts reach famous fortress

Our ride started on a bright spring afternoon, with Colorado Springs sprawling away to the north and east from our elevated vantage point. Not even two minutes later, we stepped off the bus at the dimly lit entrance to America's most mysterious, iconic symbol of military defense — Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station.

Or, as the world has known it for nearly a half-century, NORAD.

The still-busy complex inside the granite mountain looks remarkably unchanged from the oldest photos before its opening in 1966. You first pass through two 25-ton doors, closed only once since the 1970s in a state of alarm — during the initial uncertainty as the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 unfolded.

Then you come to the main steel-walled buildings, filling caves carved and blasted to create room for 13 three-story structures, two more with two levels, all sitting atop more than 1,300 coiled springs, massive enough to withstand the shock waves of a nuclear detonation. You see those springs and touch the buildings' outer walls that look and feel more like parts of a battleship.

They call it an underground city, with its own water-storage lakes even farther down. The five-acre complex includes a mini-hospital, always staffed, just in case; a dining facility, aptly called the Granite Inn; a workout area named Gould's Gym in honor of Lt. Gen. **Mike Gould**, the Cheyenne Mountain commander during 9/11 (now wrapping up his career as Air Force Academy superintendent); a chapel with regular services and its own chaplain; and much more that visitors can only wonder about.

Furloughs will be staggered to spread out the impact.

About 742 people work there, we're told: 173 active duty, 183 civilians, 222 contractors and 164 "partners" with different missions. But as all of them know, it's not luxurious. Super-clean, functional and fascinating, yes. Yet nothing extravagant. And, of course, there are no windows. The only apparent connection to everyday life outside might be the flat-screen TVs in the dining area, where workers watched cable networks, the NASA channel and sports during our visit.

Since moving to Colorado Springs in 1977, I'd always wanted to go inside — but conflicts and postponements always got in the way. Then came an invitation to a "media roundtable" at Peterson Air Force Base, followed by the tour of Cheyenne Mountain and the "original," yet still very active North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD's actual name).

Our contingent of seven, from local newspapers and TV, was briefed on all Peterson operations, how the idea of missile defense and monitoring the air above us now includes watching everything in orbit, the cyber world and what's going on inside our borders, not just heading our way from other countries. Cheyenne Mountain no longer serves as NORAD's epicenter, with those headquarters at Peterson. But the mountain still is on "warm standby," along with many separate functions including defense intelligence, training and monitoring. Actually, we couldn't go inside the main operations center, depicted in movies such as *WarGames*, because it was back in its prime-time role during renovations at Peterson.

But if you're thinking — as most of us did — that something as important as Cheyenne Mountain AFS and the U.S. Space Command should be immune from defense budget cuts, think again. Col. **Joe Turk**, the mountain's installation commander, admits that he had similar thoughts as the sequester became reality. He confirms that, after hearing the Pentagon might make exceptions, he sent some requests up the flagpole.

The response, says Turk: "They were all denied." So, just as at Peterson and Schriever bases, Fort Carson and the Air Force Academy, all civilian and contract personnel inside the mountain are preparing for mandatory furloughs: They have to take off one day every week through September, without pay.

"And they can't come in and work for free on their own," Turk adds with a grimace, "because that would actually be breaking the law."

The off days will be staggered as much as possible to spread out the impact. Active-duty military will have to cover the civilians' duties.

Yes, all that would change in case of emergency. But it's sobering to learn that the military budget cuts of 2013 have no limits — even reaching 2,000 feet underneath Cheyenne Mountain.

That shouldn't make you feel less safe. But it might anyway.

— routon@csindy.com

StreetSmarts

Fire and rain

The Waldo Canyon Fire prompted world headlines and mass evacuations by laying siege to Colorado Springs last summer. With the canyon left in cinders, the potential for catastrophic flooding looms large this summer.

Gihan Fellah from ***Cimarron Hills*** works with ***developmentally disabled adults***

Have you had any encounters with flooding? No, and I'm from here. We live out east, though, away from the mountains.

If a flood were imminent, what would you absolutely save? My children. And my photo albums — those are my memories.

Will we have wildfires in the area this summer, too? Definitely. Other natural disasters, too.

Debbie Smith from ***Pleasant Valley*** is a ***teacher***

How up are you on the Waldo Canyon flooding danger? I've heard a little about it, and what they're doing to rectify it.

How concerned are you? Not so much for myself, but considerably for my friends who live near the burn area.

What would you save first in a flood? My personal documents and my family pictures — they're all I have of my late husband.

Will there be more wildfires this summer? Who knows? And if not a fire, a tornado or something.

Darrin Reay from the ***west side*** is a ***rock climbing guide***

How concerned are you about flooding due to the Waldo Canyon burn scar? I'm very concerned. I'm a mountaineer who lives in a tent nine months of the year.

What possession would you absolutely save in a flood? My dog and my climbing gear, which is always in my backpack by the door. I don't have a computer.

Have you personally experienced flooding? Between having been in the military and living for 30 years in the mountains, I've had plenty. I've seen 80-foot walls of water come down desert canyons.

Lynn Lee from ***Cheyenne Cañon*** is a ***restorative justice facilitator***

Does the potential for flooding from the Waldo Canyon Fire scar worry you? Quite a bit, actually. I have a lot of friends who live in Manitou. It's a very real danger.

Have you ever encountered flooding? We live in a flood zone. Our house in Cheyenne Cañon has flooded three times.

Will there be an area wildfire this summer, too? Absolutely! We had two this week — one in Red Rocks, one in Crystal Park — and isn't there one in Fort Collins right now?

— Bob Campbell

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News

Of bullets and ballots

In a weirdly political week, El Paso County's sheriff attracts cheers and jeers for his posturing on gun control

By Chet Hardin

On March 9, he took to the radio and, citing questionable evidence, all but accused the Senate President of extortion. On March 13, he stood before a packed theater, encouraged the passionate crowd to boo that same politician, and seemed to revel in the idea that he might not be able to enforce a new law or two.

File photo

As an elected official, Maketa is familiar with the contours of local GOP politics.

Along the way, El Paso County Sheriff Terry Maketa also made some reasoned criticisms of the gun-control measures that Democrats are moving through the state Legislature. But the depth of his arguments probably isn't what got him onto *The O'Reilly Factor* and FOX News last week. And his willingness to embrace that kind of attention has the Senate President, Colorado Springs Democrat John Morse, and others wondering if the term-limited Maketa is already thinking about currying right-wing favor for a political campaign in 2014.

"I've known that politically he was far to the right," Morse says, "but I was surprised, because he usually stays within his lane of law enforcement and doesn't stray out of his lane into politics. And this was very politically motivated."

In response, Maketa embraces a representative's posture: He says he was "standing up for citizens, and standing up for their constitutional rights," because they weren't able to adequately comment on the gun measures.

'Things could change'

Speaking with KVOR talk-show host Jeff Crank on March 9, Maketa alleged that Senate Democrats had stymied debate when gun bills were in committee, and had threatened retaliation if sheriffs wouldn't alter their position opposing them.

Citing e-mails from the head of the state sheriffs association, Maketa claimed that the Dems — starting with Morse — were holding out on pay increases for sheriffs until the sheriffs changed or tempered their opposition.

"I felt that it was almost bordering extortion, attempted influence of [a] public official," Maketa told Crank.

But since then, Maketa has not nailed down his claim. As the *Denver Post* put it, "the sheriff has not produced proof of such an attempt at coercion. The head of Maketa's own lobbying group said he did not intend to convey any such threats to Maketa."

Speaking with the *Independent*, Morse says the allegation is simply unfounded. And to go on the radio with scant evidence?

"From a law enforcement perspective, you don't ever do that," says Morse, a former police chief. "You make sure [an allegation] is credible and that it can withstand the attacks in court."

Then, last Wednesday, Maketa joined county commissioners Peggy Littleton, Amy Lathen and Dennis Hisey for a town hall discussion about the gun bills. During the two-hour event, Maketa fielded questions from a public whose support became obvious even months ago, when he won approval of a modest tax increase for his office.

Maketa was in his element, speaking directly with some of those in the audience and at one point impersonating Morse. When asked by a number of attendees about his future, he denied having state-level aspirations, but added the caveat, "I say that knowing full well things could change."

Little room for nuance

Maketa did tell the crowd that he will "have to support" any law passed "through a lawful process" and signed by Gov. John Hickenlooper, to protect the county from liability. But he followed that up by coyly pointing out what he sees as a flaw in one bill currently on the governor's desk: "This high-capacity magazine issue? I don't know when you bought it. You see what I'm saying?" The crowd applauded passionately.

Speaking with the *Independent* later, Maketa more soberly explains that even if a person possesses a 30-round magazine after the law is enacted July 1, that won't give law enforcement reasonable suspicion to question that person. "I see it," says Maketa, "but it's not distinguishable between pre-July 1 or after July 1."

As for the domestic violence measure in the House, Maketa says it's overly broad and strips those simply accused of a crime of their due process. It would allow a court to force an individual to "relinquish any firearm or ammunition within 24 hours," if that person is served a "protection order to prevent domestic violence." Essentially, Maketa says, the courts would force a suspect to collect all his or her weapons, likely from home, while emotions are still running high.

From where he sits, Joshua Dunn, an associate professor of political science at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, sees nothing wrong with Maketa opposing these bills: "I think it would be very difficult for a sheriff not to have an opinion on this, and not give an opinion."

But, he adds, Maketa's crusade against Morse has overtaken the conversation.

"It distracts from his other critique that he thinks that these laws will be ineffective and perhaps even harmful," Dunn says. "By creating this political sideshow, it takes away from what I think is his most important concern."

Unless, Morse notes, Maketa's current concerns are mostly political.

"He's purely playing politics; he's not being a guardian of public safety in any way, shape or form," Morse says. He adds that opposition to these "common sense" measures "doesn't play to most Republicans, hardly any independents, and next-to-no Democrats, but it does play to this very small group of people who believe that the Second Amendment means that there can never be a law anywhere with the word 'gun' in it."

As for that criticism? Maketa says it "is insulting to the citizens, the thousands that have responded to me," before taking another swipe at Morse's political standing.

"This is a very diverse crowd," he says, "and I think it shows how further disconnected he is from his electorate."

— chet@csindy.com

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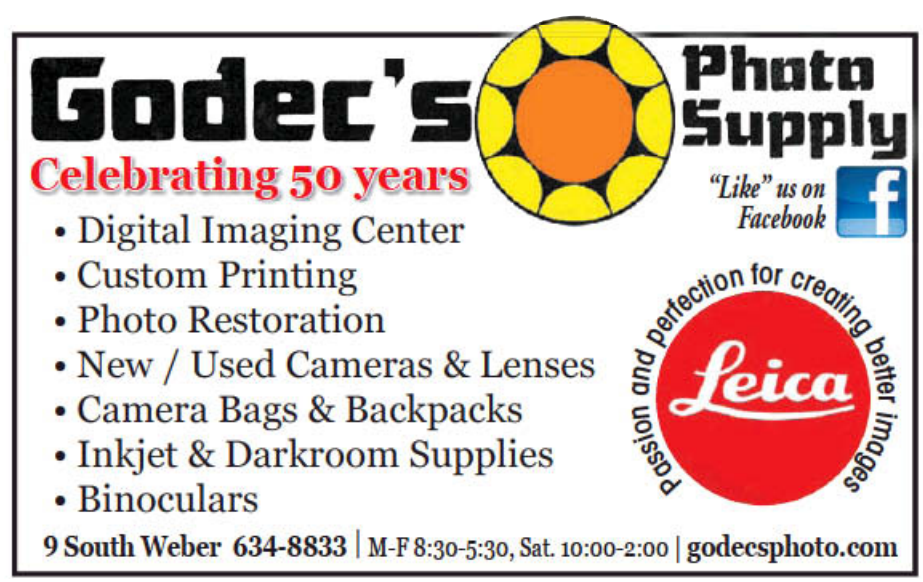
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Oil change

At Banning Lewis Ranch, the city could jump in where Ultra Resources leaves off

By Pam Zubeck

Since Ultra Resources has ceased exploratory drilling on Banning Lewis Ranch, there's been a lot of speculation over whether developers might buy Ultra's 18,500 acres there, and what for.

File photo

Colorado Springs Utilities and Ultra have taken a tussle related to the Southern Delivery System to district court.

But there's another potential bidder that hasn't been discussed much — the city of Colorado Springs.

Mayor Steve Bach refused an interview for this story, so exactly what he may have in mind isn't clear. But several sources report he's spoken with Ultra, and confidante Richard Skorman says Bach has told him, "We need to be at the table and see what's possible."

There are other signals, too:

• Skorman, a member of Bach's Parks Solutions Team, recently inquired if Utilities could change the Southern Delivery System's reservoir site from east of the city to Jimmy Camp Creek, which lies on the ranch's northeast side. Jimmy Camp was once envisioned as a recreational lake that would boost surrounding property values.

• When Ultra bought the property, two years ago parks advocates wanted 2,000 to 3,000 acres of the ranch for open space around Corral Bluffs open space but didn't submit a bid. They still want that land, open space advocate Lee Milner says.

• The city remains in bankruptcy court with Ultra over the 1988 annexation agreement, which requires developers to build roads, fire stations and other public infrastructure valued at $100 million, according to City Attorney Chris Melcher. Ultra wants to undo the agreement. Will the city capitulate to accommodate either its own vision or that of developers?

• Bach has publicly advocated for infill development before the city extends services to Banning Lewis, an area twice the size of Briargate.

All of which signals that the city will be involved at Banning Lewis, or at some point even dictate what happens.

"The compelling thing about this," says Les Gruen of the Urban Strategies planning firm, "is there's an opportunity at a very, very favorable price for the city or some sort of public entity to come in and rethink this entire property to benefit the entire area."

Assuming, of course, that Ultra doesn't increase the price substantially from the $20 million it paid.

Annexation nation

The biggest hurdle for Banning Lewis developers is the annexation agreement. Then-Mayor Bob Isaac insisted developers pay their way, and the agreement reflects that philosophy: It requires developers, not taxpayers, pay for public infrastructure.

It's been a sore spot with developers, and not much has happened outside of several hundred homes popping up on its north side. (Oakwood Homes bought 2,600 acres of the Banning Lewis Ranch in 2012, the *Gazette* reports.)

Ultra, the chief landowner, isn't the only one affected. Oakwood and roughly two dozen others with property in the vicinity have a stake in the annexation agreement, Melcher says in an interview.

The agreement has been on hold pending passage of oil and gas regulations, Melcher says. (City Council deadlocked 4-4 on an ordinance last week, effectively defeating it.) The city and Ultra are due to make a report to the bankruptcy court April 1.

"The [annexation] dispute remains to be resolved," Melcher adds. "The issue still remains whether the annexation agreement applies to that Banning Lewis Ranch parcel, and obviously the city believes it does." If Ultra decides to sell, buyers would want to know whether the annexation agreement applies, he says.

But a new agreement "that made sense for Ultra and the community" could be negotiated, Melcher says.

And "if the city gets involved," notes Gruen, "then all of a sudden that allows a bunch of different perspectives."

For example, if the city bought the property, it could force development elsewhere by refusing to sell it. It could resell the property piecemeal under an altered annexation agreement. Or, he says, the city could carve out the Jimmy Camp Creek area for a reservoir to be developed with Utilities' help. But that idea comes with complications.

Reservoir reservations

Early this month, Skorman asked if Utilities could move the SDS reservoir to Jimmy Camp Creek.

In response, Utilities issued a memo to its board, composed of City Council, that outlined potential problems. Federal officials, through a six-year permitting process, found Jimmy Camp "would have caused greater environmental effects." For example, archeological values there might need to be preserved, and the reservoir might draw birds that would disrupt flight paths from Colorado Springs Airport. Moreover, changing the site would reopen the environmental process, delaying the project.

For now, Utilities is moving ahead with SDS. In fact, it was to hold a groundbreaking for the water treatment plant at a site east of Marksheffel Road and north of Highway 94 today (Wednesday).

'We have a chance to create a greenway around the city.'

Even if it wasn't going to build a reservoir out there, the city would do well to secure as much of that property as possible, Skorman says.

"We have a chance to create a greenway around the city," Skorman says, "to protect the Jimmy Camp Creek corridor, the Rock Island Trail through Banning Lewis Ranch to Falcon."

Skorman, though, worries Ultra might not be a willing partner. "Ultra isn't happy with us," he says. "We fought them over the annexation agreement. They couldn't even do their test wells [in the city]. They had to go to the county. It's not like they have this loyalty to the city."

The latest skirmish involves land for SDS. The city needs to buy 25 acres for a pump station, 29 acres for a permanent easement for the 66-inch pipeline, and 32 acres for a temporary construction easement.

The city sued Ultra over this in January, after negotiations reached an impasse, Utilities spokeswoman Janet Rummel says. "We've gotten to the point where further delays would increase costs for our customers by delaying our contractor." The city values the property at $73,400, a figure Ultra disputes.

In court papers, Ultra argues the city is seeking too much land, including enough for a second pipeline for SDS Phase 2, which hasn't received Council authorization. Rummel says the city's request is consistent with other portions of the pipeline. The second line would convey more water from Pueblo Reservoir in years to come.

A hearing was to be held Tuesday in El Paso County District Court, after the *Independent*'s press deadline.

Money matters

It's anybody's guess how much Ultra would demand for Banning Lewis land. Or if it's willing to sell.

"All I can say at this time is that we haven't made any decisions with regard to the ranch," Vice President Doug Selvius says via e-mail.

Also in question is where the city would get the money, considering Bach is already poking around for hundreds of millions of dollars to fund the city's stormwater drainage backlog.

One possible source is from the Trails, Open Space and Parks tax, which generates about $6.6 million a year. About $3.4 million is earmarked annually for open space, or $40.8 million over the life of the tax, which expires in 12 years. Even if that's enough, parks advocates note that any TOPS open-space purchase must remain purely open space and can be resold only if approved by voters.

Will Ultra sell the property in one parcel or in pieces? Will it retain mineral rights for future drilling? All are possibilities, Selvius says. And Council President Scott Hente notes that for now, it's Ultra's call. "Maybe their attitude is sit on it for a while," he says. "Even if they want to sell it off, that market is only going to go up."

— zubeck@csindy.com

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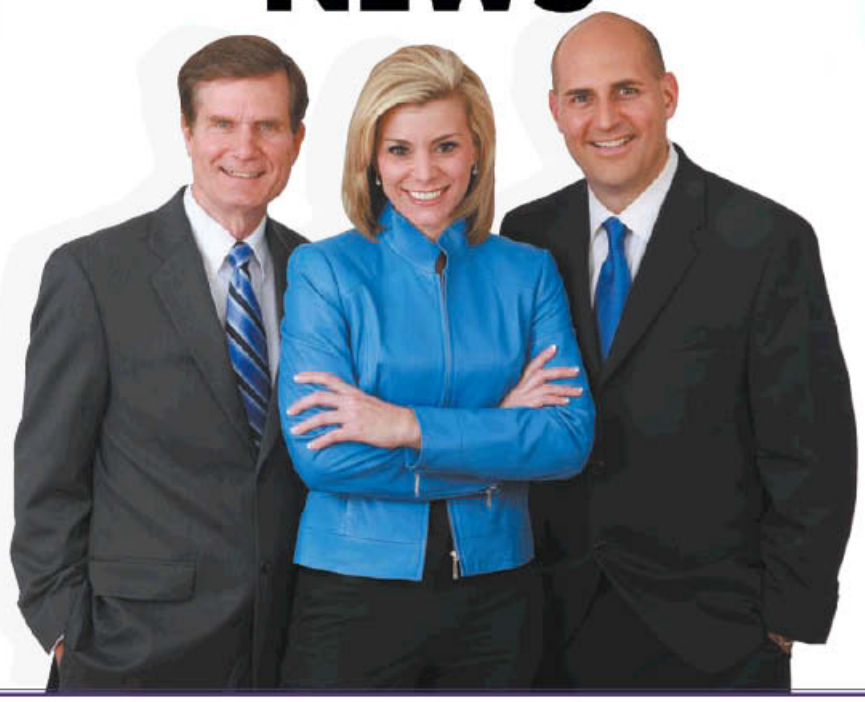

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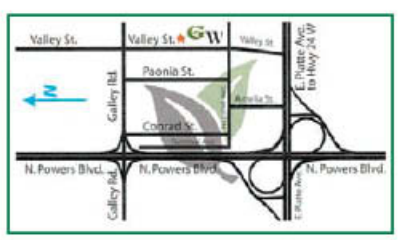

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News

Big business

Study shows nonprofits carry some financial heft

By J. Adrian Stanley

They may not seem like money-magnets, but a new study finds that Pikes Peak region nonprofits comprise the seventh-largest industry locally, with $3.1 billion in annual revenues.

Courtesy Blue Star Recyclers

Blue Star Recyclers saves taxpayers money with its employment practices.

Conducted by the Center for Nonprofit Excellence and Summit Economics LLC, with help from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs School of Public Affairs, "Nonprofits Matter – An Economic Force for a Vibrant Community" estimates that local nonprofits have a $1.7 billion economic impact, and help taxpayers avoid higher bills in various arenas.

Those strengths have not gone unnoticed.

"We definitely are paying attention to the local nonprofits," says Colorado Springs Regional Business Alliance vice president of business development John Wilson. He adds, "We have some world-renowned organizations here and we're very excited about them."

According to the research:

• The Pikes Peak area, defined for this study as El Paso and Teller counties, is home to 1,275 nonprofits, excluding religious congregations, nonprofits so small they did not register with the IRS, and nonprofits that operate within the area but are based elsewhere.

• Nonprofit expenditures per capita were $4,723 in 2011. Though 84 percent of local nonprofits are "small," with annual budgets under a million dollars, 64 percent of 2011 spending came from the area's 15 largest nonprofits.

• Nearly a third of all spending went to employees' paychecks. In 2011, an estimated 16,800 locals were employed by a nonprofit.

• Nonprofit employees and visitors, and sometimes even the nonprofits themselves, pay about $91.7 million in state and local income, sales and property taxes annually.

In addition to the general financial analysis, CNE Executive Director Dave Somers says the study also wanted to look at "social return on investment" — how much good nonprofits do. In some cases, the study was able to translate that seemingly unscientific impact into numbers.

"Organizations like Urban Peak spend approximately $5,000 a year to shelter and assist homeless teens, who otherwise might cost our community more than $50,000 a year if they ended up in corrections or a residential treatment program," he writes in an e-mail to the *Independent*. "In 2011 Discover Goodwill helped 4,740 citizens find jobs in our community with projected annual earnings of more than $57 million. Sixty-five percent of Blue Star Recyclers' workforce is developmentally disabled, and their social return on investment is nearly $20,000 per worker per year in terms of reduced taxpayer support. Pikes Peak Therapeutic Riding Center has seen a 62-percent reduction in suicide risk among its PTSD clients."

Expenditures per capita were $4,723 in '11.

Another example is Homeward Pikes Peak, thought to save taxpayers as much as $1.9 million a year by housing the homeless and thereby negating the need for police, fire, ambulance and emergency room services. Executive director Bob Holmes says he hopes the study will provide a fresh perspective.

"Part of my biggest frustration is with right-wing conservatives who decry the spending of any money for social services," Holmes says. "That's very narrow, and it's not well thought-out.

"I tell funders I'm not looking for charity, I'm looking for an investment in the community."

— stanley@csindy.com

News

A teachable moment

A long-awaited study of Air Force Academy faculty composition calls for the hiring of more civilian instructors, not only to better serve cadets academically but also to save the Air Force money and not hamper career progression of officers assigned to teach.

The RAND Corp. undertook the study in 2010 at the behest of the Air Force, amid complaints that some military faculty weren't qualified to teach the subjects they were teaching. It was due in 2011, but released only last week.

File Photo

AFA: needing more civilian instructors.

The 202-page report makes four recommendations, including increasing the number of civilian instructors to comprise 40 percent of the 570 instructors. In the past, that number's been as low as 25 percent.

The Air Force and the academy "identified one of the primary challenges as finding military officers with the required advanced academic degrees, particularly doctorates," the study reports. Even when officers are sponsored by the service to get certain degrees, issues related to timing, their career paths and other assignment policies "often result in a very small pool of qualified officers available for faculty duty."

That's why RAND recommends using officers to teach earlier in their careers rather than later, assuming they have the proper credentials. Right now, teaching assignments "do not always fit designated career paths and result in missed opportunities to gain operational and command experience compared with non-faculty peers."

Researchers also found that military instructors cost more when retirement, health insurance, relocation expense and the cost of the advanced degrees are factored in.

The academy didn't respond to specific questions about the study, the cost of which was not disclosed, but rather issued a statement contending it corroborated the academy's approach to its faculty mix. Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower, Personnel and Services Lt. Gen. Darrell Jones added, "Future assignment of military and civilian instructors will be informed by the study. However, future [Department of Defense] budget levels, the effects of sequestration and the uncertainty of future defense authorizations will also come into play."

— Pam Zubeck

Another MHS lawsuit?

Fifteen former Memorial Health System employees had a special retirement plan that cumulatively cost up to $636,000 a year. But after the city leased Memorial to University of Colorado Health on Oct. 1, the Public Employees' Retirement Association stopped making the payments, which included $20,000 a month to former CEO Dick Eitel, the *Gazette* reports.

Some of the recipients, the paper adds, are threatening to sue. If they do, it would be the third lawsuit triggered by the lease.

The first is between the city and PERA, which contends the city owes $240 million for Memorial's workers who left PERA under the UCH lease but are still due PERA benefits. The city says it owes nothing. The second was filed by investment funds over City Attorney Chris Melcher's early payoff of Memorial's bonds.

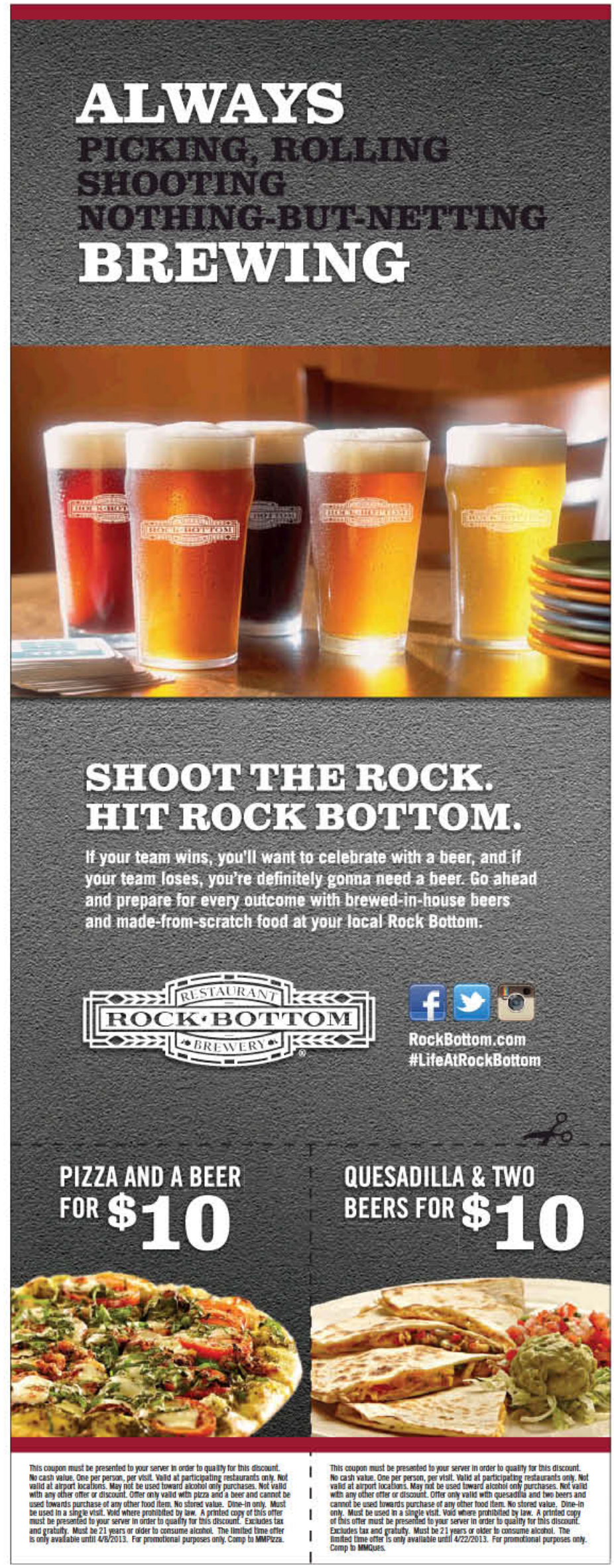
The 15 special retirement deals reportedly were struck by Memorial's board more than a decade ago and surprised former Councilor Randy Purvis, who served from 1987 to 1999 and again from 2003 to 2011. "I don't recall any secret retirement agreements with anybody at Memorial Hospital," he says.

The UCH lease mentions only PERA, and Melcher has never cited additional retirement plans as possible city liabilities.

Council President Pro Tem Jan Martin says Council wasn't told of the program until recently, but has since learned the hospital agreed to the payments in lieu of raises. Memorial and the employees both paid into PERA at a higher-than-normal rate. Since PERA benefits are capped, PERA then made payments to Memorial, which distributed them to the 15 people.

"It worked well for years until the PERA lawsuit with the city," Martin says, "and then PERA stopped making payments."

— Pam Zubeck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Noted

News briefs from the Front Range

Fracking to ballot?

Colorado Springs voters might have the opportunity to decide whether they want to ban fracking within city limits. While City Council has effectively tabled the proposed regulation of oil and gas drilling — at least until as many as six new Councilors are seated in April — Springs environmental activists have started the process of going directly to the voters.

On March 5, members of Colorado Springs Citizens for Community Rights filed with the city clerk their intention to seek to place a charter amendment on the November ballot. It's a long road, says CSCCR member Dave Gardner, noting the petition and ballot question must endure a thorough vetting process by the city. If approved by the Initiative Review Commission and Title Board Committee, they will need enough signatures to account for 10 percent of registered voters in Colorado Springs. As of March 5, that amounted to 27,589 signatures, according to City Clerk Sarah Johnson.

But, Johnson cautions, "it's always good to get 20, 30 or even 50 percent more signatures."

If the measure makes the ballot and voters approve, there's always the matter of the governor's pledge to sue any municipality that bans fracking. — ***CH***

Evening buses start April 1

Mayor Steve Bach has talked about it for months, and soon it will be a reality: city bus service that runs in the evening. Starting April 1, service on routes 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 (to University of Colorado at Colorado Springs only), 11 and 25 will be extended until approximately 9:45 p.m. Route 10 evening service will extend until about 7:10.

On the first night, bus service will be free after 6:45 p.m., as part of a celebration.

Currently, buses make their final trips at 6:15, due to previous cutbacks. — ***JAS***

Trail extension coming

El Paso County will partner with Colorado Springs Utilities to extend Ute Pass Trail, historically the main westward route through the area. The new section extends west from Manitou Incline Trailhead for about 3.5 miles, with an interpretive loop at the top. It has long been a social trail.

The Ute Pass Trail project first got under way in 2003, and sections of the trail are currently functional in the Green Mountain Falls area. Eventually, plans call for the Ute Pass Trail to stretch 11 miles from Manitou Springs to the Teller County line. That's assuming, of course, that efforts to extend the trail aren't derailed; Cascade residents have strongly objected to bringing the trail to their area. — ***JAS***

Still no sanctuary

In 2006, amid a nationwide backlash against "sanctuary cities" — municipalities seen as lenient to undocumented immigrants — Colorado adopted a law intended to counter that phenomenon. Now, there's an effort to invalidate that law.

House Bill 1258, sponsored by Rep. Joe Salazar, D-Thornton, would remove the requirement that law enforcement officers report to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement any arrestee they suspect is undocumented.

While some opponents of the bill (including El Paso County Sheriff Terry Maketa) worry this will make sanctuary cities legal again, proponents, such as Arapahoe County Sheriff and former County Sheriffs of Colorado President Grayson Robinson, say it simply eliminates a "duplicative and an unnecessary cost."

As he points out, Colorado sheriffs participate in Secure Communities, a federal program that checks a person's status automatically when booked into jail. Secure Communities is superior to the 2006 law for a number of reasons, he says, including the elimination of "concerns or allegations of bias-based policing." — ***CH***

Free parking, at least

No matter where you stand on the ballot measure that would up City Councilors' pay to $48,000 a year, you likely agree that their current $6,250 doesn't go very far.

Councilors do receive perks, including tickets to dinners and other events, and $5,000 per year for travel expenses incurred on city business (though some don't claim the latter). Another gift is free parking north of City Hall and in the city's garages.

Others with free parking include Mayor Steve Bach, two employees in his office, Bach's chief of staff Laura Neumann, City Attorney Chris Melcher, City Auditor Denny Nester and director of communications Cindy Aubrey. Altogether, the 16 freebies cost taxpayers $8,600 annually.

The city pays $20 a month toward parking for 175 city and 300 Utilities workers in city garages, a long-standing practice; employees pick up $30 of their cost. Those free and reduced charges come to $123,600, paid for by taxpayers and Utilities ratepayers. — ***PZ***

Compiled by Chet Hardin, J. Adrian Stanley and Pam Zubeck.

Cheat sheet

Indy picks for the April 2 election

City Council races*

District 1: Don Knight
District 2: Joel Miller
District 3: Brandy Williams
District 4: Dennis Moore
District 5: Jill Gaebler
District 6: Andres Pico

Ballot issues

Issue 1 (TOPS reallocation): No
Issue 2 (Council pay increase): Yes

**For the latest campaign finance info, see tinyurl.com/Indyfinance.*

BLACK WATER

Be scared of, and prepared for, years of fierce flooding off the Waldo Canyon burn scar

By J. Adrian Stanley

Courtesy El Paso County

An unremarkable rainstorm last July broke the Pine Valley Pipeline, putting the city at risk for a water shortage should anything else go wrong.

They knew even when the flames were still licking the mountaintops.

And ever since those smoky July days, they have been issuing warnings, conducting studies, digging pools into the burned dirt, dropping mulch from helicopters, and laying felled logs along the bare hillside. But even with all the preparation, much is left to fate.

The summer monsoon season approaches, and 18,247 acres of blackened earth waits, ready to unleash a fury that could prove more damaging than the fire that killed two people and destroyed nearly 350 homes.

Experts agree: One fast, hard rainstorm over the Waldo Canyon burn scar could send a torrent downhill, taking houses, businesses, roads, utility lines and lives.

It could come in the afternoon, rushing toward crowds of tourists in downtown Manitou Springs. It could come in the middle of the night, catching Pleasant Valley neighborhood residents as they sleep.

Some who watched the Waldo Canyon Fire approach through their windows may feel they know the drill: Pack your bags and wait for the knock on the door. But most will receive no such direct warning in a flood evacuation. In fact, those who have studied our risk say they are struggling to relay a single, essential message: You're on your own this time around, and you'd better be ready.

A BIG STORM COULD BRING A BILLION GALLONS OF WATER INTO THE SPRINGS.

Carol Ekarius, executive director of the Coalition for the Upper South Platte, has directed fire and flood recovery work for the 2002 Hayman Fire and other large burns. She's seen her share of devastating floods. Still, in terms of flood risk, she calls Waldo "the scariest fire in the country."

"Have you got your ark ready?" she asks, with a nervous chuckle.

Another expert puts it even more bluntly. David Zelenok is an engineer who retired from the city of Colorado Springs in 2005 after nearly 15 years overseeing the city's public works, stormwater and transportation infrastructure. Concerned about flood risks in his old hometown, he began crunching raw numbers. The results were disturbing: A big storm within the next 10 years is a virtual mathematical certainty, and unless significant mitigation work is done, he predicts that storm could bring a billion or more gallons of water into the Springs over several hours. That's about

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the contents of Crystal Creek Reservoir.

"The kinds of fatalities I think we'll see — and I pray I'm wrong — is in the dozens, or perhaps even hundreds," he says.

THE FIRST WARNING

Last July 30, just weeks after the fire was fully contained, Colorado Springs got a rainstorm.

Tom Magnuson, the local warning coordination meteorologist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, says it dumped about 1.5 inches of rain on 80 percent of the burn scar over about three hours. A smaller portion of the burn, in the West Monument Creek drainage, saw nearly 2 inches in an hour and half.

The results were dramatic. Mud slides closed U.S. Highway 24 near Cascade, with the Colorado Department of Transportation reporting sludge five feet deep in places. As the mud coursed down the hill, it damaged the playground at Ute Pass Elementary School.

Downstream at Rainbow Falls, where Fountain Creek runs under U.S. 24 before heading into Manitou Springs, the water carved out a new landscape. Monument Creek, near the Air Force Academy, reached 97 percent capacity and Fountain Creek, near downtown, reached 98 percent.

Worst of all, stormwater put a low-lying water treatment plant near the Air Force Academy at risk of damage, and busted the Pine Valley Pipeline. That pipeline can carry 80 percent of Colorado Springs' water into town from Rampart Reservoir if and when the main line, the Stanley Canyon Tunnel, breaks down or needs maintenance.

Crews are still scrambling to fix that bust. In the meantime, if anything goes wrong with Stanley Canyon, the Springs will have a massive water shortage. In fact, some northern portions of the city and the Air Force Academy may not have fresh water service at all, says Mark Shea, Utilities' watershed planning supervisor.

In sum, the July storm was a doozy in terms of damage. But in terms of rainfall rate, it really wasn't that big. Magnuson says the burn scar will likely see a storm like this one, every year.

"That was not a worst-case scenario by any stretch," he says.

The worst-case scenario is this: Inches of rain falling hard and fast within an hour over the entire burn scar. If the ground is already wet from earlier rain, it will be worse. If the storm happens this year, it will be more severe than if it happens four years from now, when vegetation has had a chance to take root, and local governments and agencies have had more time to build structures that can slow down water and hold back debris.

Magnuson notes that last summer, a storm dumped three to four inches of rain in a couple hours on the Briargate area. A September storm dumped around 1.25 to 1.67 inches of water on the burn scar, but the water came slowly over a period of hours, giving the ground time to absorb it.

Under slightly different conditions, either of those storms would have caused havoc. In fact, the U.S. Forest Service has studied the effects of just 1.75 inches of rain in an hour on the burn scar, which is considered a 10-year flood. They'd be catastrophic.

Courtesy Colorado Department of Transportation

Last year's mudslide on Highway 24 sent an ominous signal up the pass.

THE POWER OF WATER

Green Mountain Falls Mayor Lorrie Worthey sits still, staring at the map, a tear gliding its way down her cheek.

Her town was long known for its waterfalls, a pretty gazebo and not much else. But in 2012, it made headlines. Last summer, of course, it came close to burning in the Waldo Canyon Fire. And earlier in the year, arsonists burned down its historic town hall, and with it, some of the town's treasured historical documents.

Now, Worthey and the rest of Green Mountain Falls' trustees must gather here, in the back room of the Joyland Falls Church Center, to conduct the town's business. On Feb. 19, that business is grim.

El Paso County Commissioner Sallie Clark, Ekarius and Patty Baxter, the county emergency services program manager, move slowly through their presentations, stopping for questions from the trustees and a small gathering of residents.

"If we get an inch of rain," Baxter is saying, "it may be days before we can reopen Highway 24."

Ekarius later adds that Colorado Department of Transportation representatives believe they "can handle a 10-year event. It will potentially be three weeks or a month of cleaning [U.S. Highway 24]. But they think the highway would survive a 10-year event.

"They will tell you that if it's a 25-year event, they do not believe the highway will survive.

"It would probably not survive from Sand Gulch [above Cascade] to 31st Street. We would be looking at replacing four lanes of highway."

Aside from experience with other fires, most of what is known about how Waldo will flood is based on two documents: a Federal Emergency Management Agency 100-year flood map, and the U.S. Forest Service's Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Study. The latter is an initial assessment of the flood dangers and other issues stemming from the burn scar. It was released July 20.

> 'IF IT'S A 25-YEAR EVENT, THEY DO NOT BELIEVE THE HIGHWAY WILL SURVIVE.'

Though it doesn't consider the burn scar, the flood map's topography provides a decent guide to where water might flow once it reaches populated areas. It shows a thick strip of blue covering buildings all along Fountain Creek, from Green Mountain Falls down through western Colorado Springs. Camp Creek looks like a mighty river running over countless homes in Pleasant Valley, near 31st Street. Near where Camp and Fountain creeks meet, the Red Rock Shopping Center is drowned, as is a mobile home park.

To the north, a swelled North Douglas Creek sideswipes buildings, and South Douglas Creek swallows quite a few whole. Huge stretches of Monument and West Monument creeks, coming from the northern watersheds, are a grand stripe of blue, endangering anything built near or along the banks.

Again, this is a picture of the storm of the century — or what could have been the storm of the century before Waldo. Now it represents a 10-year storm for areas affected by burn-scar runoff, and it's likely a little conservative.

"We could see a storm that we used to see every 100 years, every 10 years now," Forest Service hydrologist Dana Butler says. "It could be even more frequently, a two-year storm event, something we regularly see."

The BAER study offers some guidance as to why. The first problem, of course, is that there's little or no vegetation to soak up the water, meaning much of it comes rushing down the hillside. Additionally, about 40 percent of the burn area saw "moderate burn severity" in the soil, and another 19 percent saw "high burn severity." The hotter the ground gets, the less absorbent the soil left behind.

But water is hardly the only problem.

The report notes, "The post-fire area has an erosion potential of 13 tons of material per acre for a 10-year storm event, compared to a pre-fire erosion rate calculated at 2.5 tons/acre across 5 major watersheds: Fountain Creek Headwaters, Cascade-Fountain Creek, Garden of the Gods (Camp Creek), West Monument Creek, and Lower Monument Creek."

To put that in perspective, in a 10-year storm, Camp Creek alone could deliver more than 10,000 dump trucks of debris from the burn scar. Fountain Creek could produce even more, and other major watersheds will be similarly clogged.

Zelenok notes that the debris is incredibly destructive. Water naturally weighs 62 pounds per cubic foot, but can weigh double that with sediment. And rocks and trees in fast-moving water can smash into whatever stands in their way with tremendous force.

Also, sediment clogs creeks and drainage ways, leading to more flooding. Colorado Springs stormwater manager Tim Mitros notes that all that water and debris could easily overpower the city's stormwater channels and pipes, many of which were considered undersized before the fire.

"We don't design subdivisions for fires," he says. "So when you have everything burnt, it changes everything."

Disaster scenarios of this kind don't just exist on paper. Ekarius has witnessed the results of other major Colorado fires, though none was so close to a major population center. She's cleaned up after the Hayman, Snaking, Schoonover, High Meadows and Buffalo Creek fires.

"We've seen flooding in every one of these burn areas, and it's always mind-boggling at first," she says.

Buffalo Creek, the first of those big fires, scorched Jefferson County in 1996. Ekarius remembers that within the first year and a half there were more than a dozen 100-year flood events in the area, including one that killed two people and moved buildings. The creek there, which normally ran at about two to three cubic feet per second (imagine a cubic foot as a basketball), swelled to greater than 2,000.

Years later, she says, workers were mitigating the Hayman burn. NOAA issued a storm warning and the workers took a few minutes to pack up. When they looked up, the dry gulch below was two feet deep and 20 feet across.

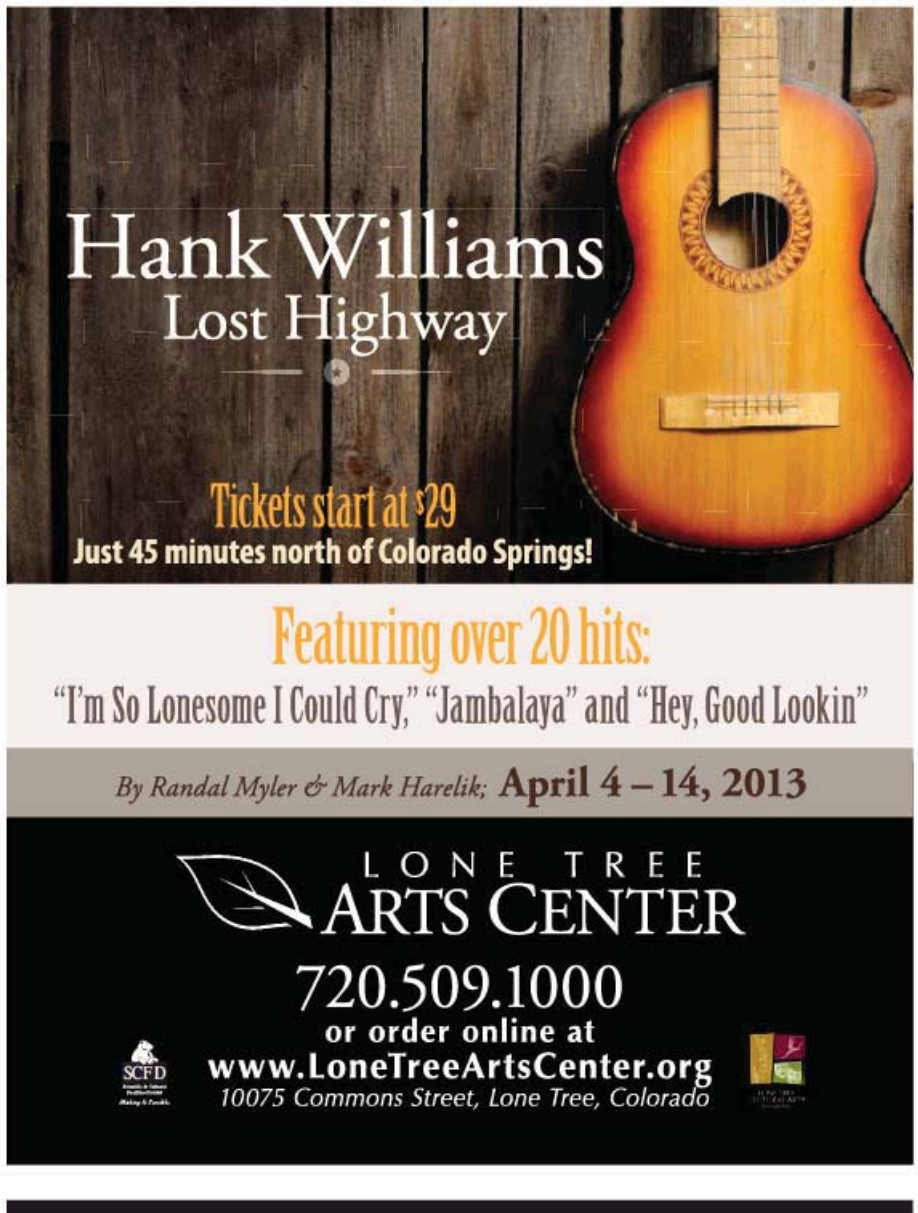
"To me, the real news of these fires is what happens after them," she says. "The fire did a tremendous amount of damage. But we're not done with this fire for decades."

GETTING OUT

Given that storms involve many variables, it's tough to determine exactly how much time people may have to seek higher ground. But there are some rough estimates.

Magnuson says that in a large storm, communities like Cascade, Green Mountain Falls and Chipita Park could get less than 10 minutes' warning before water, choked with sediment and debris, thrashes through town. By comparison, from the upper stretches of Queens Canyon, Camp Creek might take 90 minutes to deliver stormwater into the Pleasant Valley neighborhood.

Magnuson says populated areas along North and South Douglas Creek and Monument Creek would likely get less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Brienne Boortz

AmeriCorps volunteers have been busy mitigating at Flying W Ranch.

planning time than that, though it's hard to say how much less. Similarly hard to pin down is Manitou Springs, where water from several major watersheds converges. Most of those watersheds feed Fountain Creek west of town, but Williams Canyon Creek hits the town from the north end, running through a culvert under residential and commercial areas before meeting Fountain Creek near the town's center.

Storms won't necessarily dump on all the watersheds. But even a small storm in one watershed can do damage, especially if the water falls fast. Magnuson says NOAA will issue a flash flood warning if as little as a half inch of rain falls on the burn scar. It's updating its radar and has installed rain gauges on the scar to help it determine when to send such warnings.

Meanwhile, a new $120,000 study will soon provide better estimates of how quickly water will move into populated areas in a given storm, and how much damage it will do. Dubbed the Flood Plain Inundation Study and paid for by the Colorado Water Conservation Board, the Pikes Peak Regional Building Department, the county, the city and CDOT, it will estimate the speed of flood waters and map where the water, debris and mud will go. The study, which is being performed by Matrix Design Group, will show a range of scenarios based on the location and rate of rainfall.

The more detailed portion of the study won't be out until at least the end of July, but an initial portion, along with a map that's far more accurate than current FEMA flood maps, could be released as early as the end of April. At that point, Baxter plans to host small community meetings in flood-prone areas so residents can get personalized information.

"What people want to do is, they want to look at a map on a wall and say, 'That's my house right there,'" she says. "'What's the danger to my house?'"

Baxter is also planning for the aftermath of a big flood. With other leaders, she's organized groups focusing on incident command; medical and public health issues; debris clearance; and mass care (think staffing and setting up emergency shelters, arranging bus transportation, and helping evacuate and care for pets).

Meanwhile, the city is planning an April media blitz to tell people what to do in case of a flood (chiefly, get to higher ground). Experts say residents must be proactive because in most areas, police and firefighters won't be able to knock on doors if an evacuation is needed. Only Manitou Springs has sirens, and even those are effective in just a limited area,

Water world

Here's the amount of water (in cubic feet per second) that a biennial, one-hour storm could send out of a given watershed before the fire, as compared with after.

Sand Gulch	67.7	308.9	+356.6%
Wellington Gulch	101.3	739.9	+630.5%
Waldo Canyon	102.2	594.5	+481.8%
Fountain Creek above Manitou Springs	988.7	1632.7	+65.1%
Williams Canyon	128.6	733.4	+470.3%
Camp Creek (Queens Canyon)	270.3	1586.3	+486.8%
S. Douglas Creek	89.6	593.2	+562.0%
N. Douglas Creek	4.4	11.9	+166.9%
W. Monument Creek above filtration plant	403.4	996.1	+146.9%

Source: U.S. Forest Service's Burned Area Emergency Response Study

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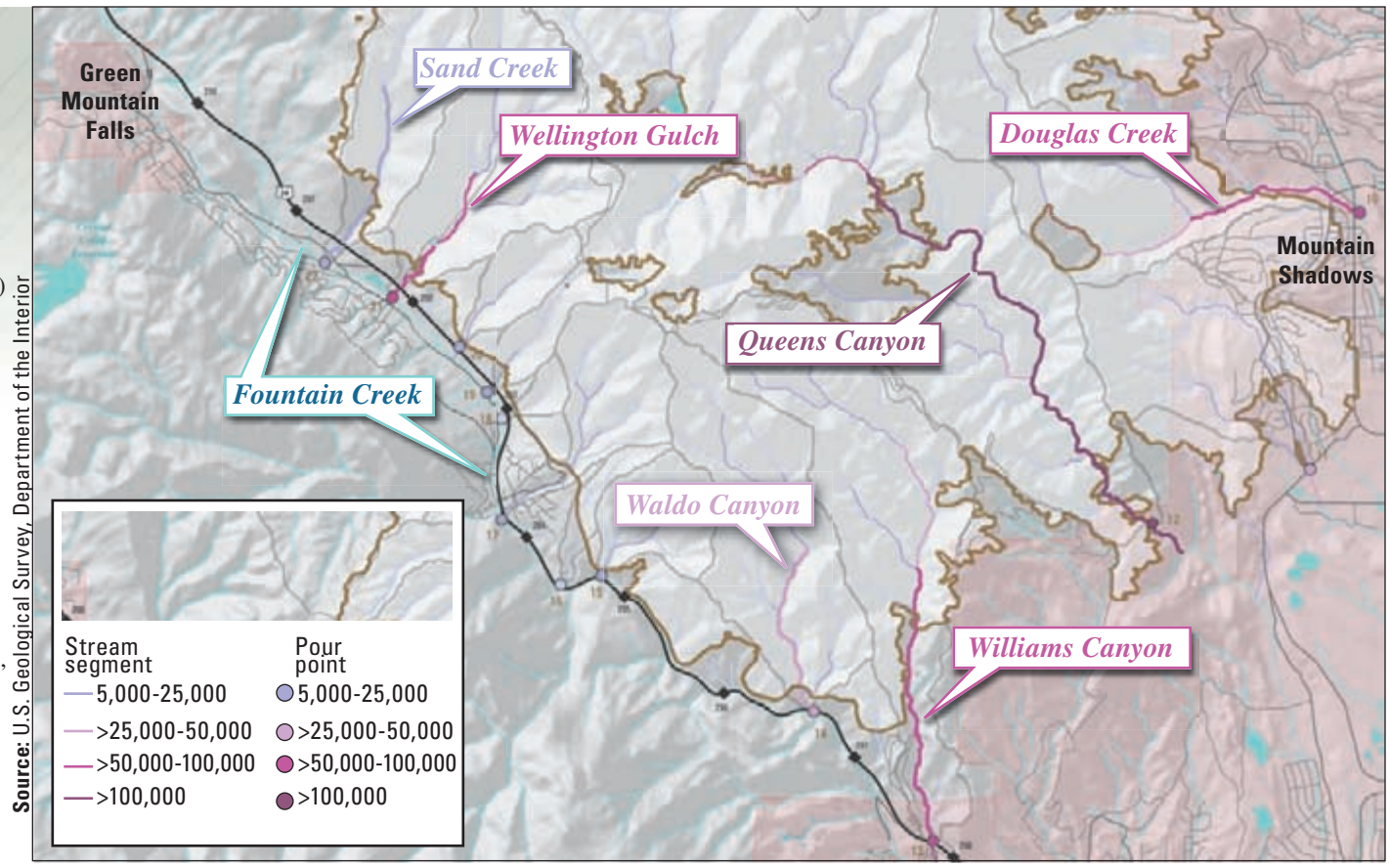
close to Fountain Creek.

So people in flood-prone areas should sign up for reverse 911 notifications (text and e-mail are the most reliable), buy weather radios (designed to wake a person from sleep), and keep an eye on weather reports. And they should also have a 72-hour emergency kit that can be grabbed easily on the way out the door. (See: "High and dry," p. 22, for more tips.)

Bret Waters, Colorado Springs' Office of Emergency Management Division manager, notes that not all areas have a heightened risk of flooding, but areas that border the burn scar and those along the major drainages from the burn scar need to be aware of the risk. He's holding community meetings, large and small, to try to alert residents in the highest-risk areas.

"It will even involve a door-to-door campaign, believe it or not," he says. "... There are certain areas we're concerned about, so we're going to target those areas, all the way to leaving information for them at their residence."



Source: U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior

DIGGING OUR WAY OUT

Even as some are preparing for the flood, others are working to prevent it. Like no other issue since the fire, the fear of flood has brought governments and agencies together to plan, including: the City of Colorado Springs, El Paso County, federal legislators, Manitou Springs, NOAA, the U.S. Forest Service, the Coalition for the Upper South Platte, AmeriCorps, Colorado Springs Utilities, the Pikes Peak Regional Building Department, CDOT and others.

One team, led by Waters and County Commissioner Clark, is putting together a huge spreadsheet of area projects, including information on likely funding. "I think it makes our case better for us to be able to get [grants] if we're coordinating this," Clark says.

Not that anyone is waiting to start work. The city's Mitros recites many projects off the top of his head. In Queens Canyon, chain-link-like fences have been laid into the creek to catch some of the debris in the water. Downstream, the ditch along 31st Street has been scrubbed clean.

Flying W Ranch has a new series of drainage ponds to slow water and catch debris. Below the ranch, in the Mountain Shadows neighborhood, a detention pond was built, then deepened to catch increased flows.

Manitou Springs has removed large trees that once hung into Fountain Creek, along with some underbrush. Near the old

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Penny Arcade, the city has doubled the size of its storm drains.

Colorado Springs Utilities is busy fixing its broken pipeline, stabilizing drainages above it, and repairing the access road that's used to reach it, which was damaged by the July 30 storm. It's also built catchment basins in West Monument Creek, and plans more, in an effort to protect a water treatment plant. It will spend around $10 million on burn-related projects this year.

CDOT is spending nearly $4.8 million on projects along U.S. 24, which are expected to be completed in early summer. The department will strengthen the retaining walls near Rainbow Falls, and build structures to contain debris in large slide areas like Sand Gulch, which collapsed July 30.

Meanwhile, logs have been dug into hillsides to terrace slopes throughout the burn scar, sandbags have been slapped down, and mulch has been dropped from helicopters. Smaller projects abound.

Still, much more needs to be done. The process has been slowed for a few reasons, chiefly money. While some grants, local government funding, volunteer work and money from CDOT and Utilities have made a dent in the problem, most mitigation work needs to be done with Emergency Watershed Protection money from the federal government.

The Waldo fire has seen just $1.2 million of EWP funding, though leaders have asked for $9.6 million more. (That figure includes local match money.) Despite advocacy on the part of U.S. Sens. Michael Bennet and Mark Udall, and Rep. Doug Lamborn, the funding had remained elusive as of press time.

The Senate passed a bill addressing Hurricane Sandy relief that also included EWP funding for fire-ravaged areas last year, but the House let the bill expire Jan. 2, then wrote a new bill that excluded the funding. The latter passed both houses and was signed into law.

The exclusion of fire and flood funding upset Bennet, who came to visit the new sediment basins on Flying W Ranch on Feb. 22.

"It's all being done in the name of being prudent financially," he said. "This is what is prudent, is actually getting it done."

The House has since passed a bill that includes $48.2 million EWP funding for projects across the country, and the Senate included $65.5 million of the funds in its version of the bill. If either version of the bill passes and is signed into law, Waldo is likely to get much of the money it requested, says Kristin Lynch, Bennet's spokesperson.

Meanwhile, the Colorado Watershed Conservation Board, CDOT, the Forest Service, the city, the county, Manitou Springs and others have jointly funded a $475,000 Watershed Assessment of River Stability and Sediment Supply (WARSSS) study.

The WARSSS, required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and scheduled for release at the end of March, will predict how water, sediment and debris will move along and off the burn scar. Based on its findings, it will provide a list of prioritized mitigation projects.

Baxter says a lot of major work awaits that study.

"Our concern is that if we were to rush in and put treatments in before that assessment is over, we'd spend a lot of time, money and effort putting a treatment in, only to find we put it in the wrong place, or we put in the wrong treatment," she says.

The WARSSS is being performed by Fort Collins-based hydrologist Dave Rosgen, considered top in the field. He and his team have walked more than 70 miles through the burn scar in order to map the area and understand the conditions.

"It's not simple; it's a complex system," Rosgen says. "But I try to make it — now [that I have] 48 years in the business— make it simple."

Rosgen notes that only five or six projects are likely to get done this summer; it will take years to implement all his recommendations. And even when the projects are complete, the risk of flooding won't disappear, especially for homes in the floodplain.

In nature, Rosgen explains, creeks flood in a fan outward, dropping their sediment, but that natural process doesn't work nearly as well when homes and businesses lie in the way. And in Colorado Springs, where water has long been scarce and treasured, we've built heavily along our waterways.

Unfortunately, he says, "We can only encroach so far against the channel, before it encroaches back."

— stanley@csindy.com

> 'TO ME, THE REAL NEWS OF THESE FIRES IS WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THEM.'

HIGH AND DRY

Protecting yourself, and your most valuable possessions, in a flood situation

By J. Adrian Stanley

The fire was a surprise, but the flood shouldn't be. This time, there's a chance to save everything from money to family photo albums to lives, and County Commissioner Sallie Clark says she hopes people will take advantage.

"We don't know when, but the rains are going to come at some point," she says. "Folks need to really be aware that there's a 30-day wait [for flood insurance]. So, if you're in an area that's in a major pour point [where a creek or waterway comes off the mountains], or you're in an area that's likely to get flooded, even if you weren't in a floodplain before, you will be now."

To get a sense of your risk, find information at floodsmart.gov and rmiia.org, and flood maps at tinyurl.com/femagovmaps1 and tinyurl.com/femagovmaps2. Be aware that insurance is available for homeowners and renters, though it won't cover everything.

As for other ways to be prepared, local experts offer the following tips:

• Buy a hazardous weather alert radio, available at most drugstores.

• Register for reverse 911 emergency notification alerts at elpasoteller911.org.

• Sign up for rain-gauge alerts in your area at waterdata.usgs.gov/co/nwis/current/?type=precip.

• Keep an eye on the weather. While flash flood warnings won't likely come until a half inch of rain has fallen, flash flood *watches* will come much earlier. NOAA also has a weekly "hazardous weather outlook" report under its "Watches and warnings" tab, which is updated daily. Check it at weather.gov/pueblo.

• Don't wait to be notified. Manitou Springs is the only community with sirens, and those will only be heard close to Fountain Creek. If you are in a floodplain, get to higher ground immediately once you see heavy rain or flooding. And stay far from waterways during a storm. (Ogling can be deadly.)

• Have a plan for your pets and children. Ask a neighbor to evacuate them in the event that you are away from home.

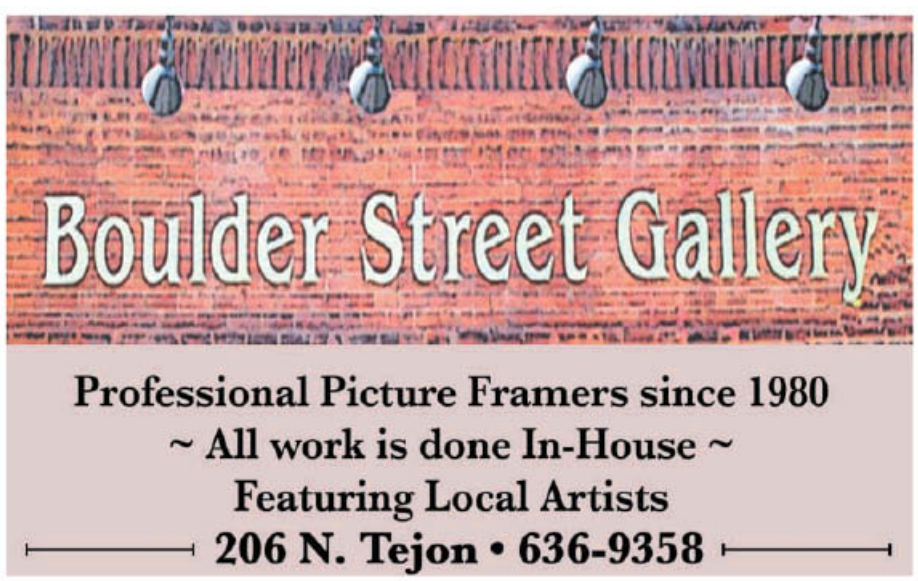
• Put together a 72-hour emergency kit in case you need to evacuate. Check here for good ideas: ready.gov/build-a-kit.

• If you live in a Ute Pass community, be aware that U.S. Highway 24 could become blocked for days or even weeks. Keep supplies at your home. If you need regular medical attention, make sure you have plenty of medication and supplies, and that you have alternate plans to reach a doctor or hospital if the highway is closed.

• Take photographs of all your belongings for insurance purposes and store them in a safe place, like a safe-deposit box that's out of the floodplain, or on the cloud. If you have irreplaceable items, perhaps store them away from a flood-risk home, at least for the next few years.

• Learn more about Colorado Springs neighborhood meetings about flood risks, or schedule a meeting for a group, at 385-5957. County meetings are currently being planned, with information to be posted at shr.elpasoco.com.

— stanley@csindy.com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BY HOOK OR BY CROOK

Fierce and full: Our reviews of *Other Desert Cities* and *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*

By Todd Wallinger

BREAK

Last weekend, I took in two new theater shows in Colorado Springs. Since both run for at least one more weekend, we present some thoughts on whether each is worth your time and money.

OTHER DESERT CITIES

Polish poet Czeslaw Milosz said it best: "Once a writer is born into a family, that family is doomed."

There's more than a grain of truth in there. Writers are neurotic and self-absorbed, and if that family harbors any secrets, you can bet they won't stay secret for long.

That's the situation faced by the Wyeth family in Jon Robin Baitz's brilliant *Other Desert Cities*, making its Colorado premiere at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center.

Nominally this 2012 Pulitzer finalist is a drama, but I almost hate to call it that because there's so much humor in it. The dialogue sparkles with wit, and in the character of Brooke, Baitz nails that peculiar creature known as The Writer.

As the play begins, Brooke has returned to her parents' palatial Palm Springs home for Christmas. Her second book is about to be published, but she's strangely reluctant to talk about it.

The reason soon becomes clear. The book isn't a novel, as she's been telling everyone, but a highly revealing memoir about the family. And the Wyeths aren't just any family.

Brooke's older brother Henry was a drug addict who'd been implicated in the bombing of a military recruiting center and committed suicide as the feds were closing in on him. Parents Polly and Lyman always maintained there was nothing they could have done, but in her memoir, Brooke lays all the blame on them and their moralizing, right-wing attitudes.

Director Scott RC Levy took some real risks with the casting, but it's paid off with some of the best performances I've seen all season.

Brooke is played by Kate Berry, a highly accomplished actress who turns in an intimately observed portrait of a young woman still shell-shocked from the collapse of her marriage. Local favorite Leah Chandler-Mills is Polly, a dyed-in-the-wool conservative who's worked hard to rebuild her life after their very public scandal and isn't about to let it be torn apart again.

"You wrote this because you expect an apology, don't you?" Polly asks Brooke. With her moral rectitude and relentless needling, Polly could have easily been dashed off as a stereotype, but Chandler-Mills wraps her character in a brittle shell that allows us to glimpse her fragility.

Lyman is played by Daniel Noel, a big bear of a guy whose honey-coated voice seduces as it cajoles. A movie-star-turned-politico, Lyman strives to cultivate an image of gentility and decorum, and when that's threatened, he reacts the only way he knows how: by burying his head in the sand.

Caught in the middle is youngest son Trip, played by Sammy Gleason in a rare dramatic role. A TV reality show producer, Trip tosses off wisecracks as a shield; but when pushed to take sides, he explodes with a frightening intensity.

Birgitta De Pree is Polly's sister Silda, a recovering alcoholic who recently moved in so that Polly can watch over her — an arrangement neither embraces. De Pree is an accomplished actress, and if you only know her from her appearances as the sassy, English-challenged Babette at the Millibo Art Theatre, you're in for a delightful surprise.

"Polly threatened never to talk to me again," Brooke frets shortly after her mother reads her memoir.

"Really?" Silda replies. "I'd take that deal in a goddamn minute."

Christopher Sheley's set is a work of art, bringing the Wyeth living room to life with a high vaulted ceiling, two tons of decorative stone and towering windows that gaze out on the lights of those "other desert cities." It's gorgeous, and yet in its sterile perfection we can sense the oppressiveness that Brooke must feel there.

Accusations are made, and secrets revealed. But as you'd expect from a play with storytelling at its core, the real pivot point is perfectly placed — a veritable nuclear bomb that goes off in the second act.

CAPSULE

Other Desert Cities

Through March 31, Thursdays through Sundays

Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St.

Tickets: $18-$37; for more, call 634-5583 or visit csfineartscenter.org.

BLOODY BLOODY ANDREW JACKSON

Andrew Jackson was a lot of things. Frontiersman. War hero. President. But it took Alex Timbers and Michael Friedman to turn him into a rock star. They're the creators of *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*, the irreverent rock musical that had a brief 2010 run on Broadway but has since developed something of a cult following.

This month, TheatreWorks is taking its stab at it. It's the company's annual student show, produced each March in partnership with the Department of Visual and Performing Arts at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. The university provides the cast, TheatreWorks the set, costumes and director.

Directed by assistant professor of theatre Kevin Landis, this production is a rowdy good time. If the music sometimes lacks punch, the student performers more than make up for it with their manic energy and campy, over-the-top humor. In fact, I haven't heard an audience laugh so hard or so often in a long time.

An always-charming Lynne Hastings gets the craziness started as the Storyteller, cruising out on her electric scooter to lead us through Jackson's early years with the breathless excitement of an adoring fangirl.

It was a violent time, she tells us, and the newly established United States faced three bitter enemies: the British, the Spanish and — most hated of all — the Indians. Yet in those days of Manifest Destiny, every red-blooded American knew time was on our side.

"This land is our land," Andrew's father tells his young son. "And even the land that isn't our land is going to be our land."

With his guyliner, tousled hair and ripped skinny jeans, Omíd Dastán Harrison embodies Jackson as an emo boy. Though not physically imposing, Harrison exudes a cocky swagger and sheer sexual confidence that allow him to command the stage and, at times, the entire house.

At one point, he leaps off the stage to approach one unsuspecting audience member. "How would you like to see my stimulus package?" he says, thrusting his pelvis at her.

Jackson's astonishing military success leads him all the way to the White House, though not until after he's had his first Electoral College win stolen from him by the moneyed interests that ruled Washington. This is all explained in the "The Corrupt Bargain," an ensemble song that crams a college lecture's worth of history into three insanely catchy verses. John Calhoun, Henry Clay and John Quincy Adams all make appearances here, but it's Erik Brevik, a long-haired Russell Brand look-alike, who steals the scene by playing Martin Van Buren as a pot-bellied, Twinkie-loving twit.

Friedman's punk-flavored score is filled with youthful defiance and smart-ass wit. But the student voices are not uniformly strong. And the four-piece band, though technically impeccable, skews more jazzy than punk, robbing the songs of much of their power.

Vance McKenzie's lighting is dynamic without being obtrusive, while Roy Ballard's set is a glorious eyeful, a rambling western streetfront that opens into a theater decked out with patriotic bunting and a generous array of stuffed animal heads. But its most dramatic feature is a runway that juts straight out from the stage, splitting the audience in two and giving Harrison ample room to strut his stuff.

The show may play fast and loose with some historical facts, but it gets the big things right, and it doesn't shy away from the controversies that plague Jackson's legacy today, particularly his forced exile of the Indians to the West.

American hero or American Hitler? The show refuses to draw a definitive conclusion. But one thing's for sure. No president ever looked so good in a pair of skinny jeans.

— scene@csindy.com

CAPSULE

Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson

Through March 24, Wednesdays through Sundays

UCCS' Dusty Loo Bon Vivant Theater, 3955 Regent Circle

Tickets: $15, free for UCCS students. For more, call 255-3232 or see theatreworkscs.org.

PRESS RELEASE

A local printer subverts accepted practices in publishing

By Wyatt Miller

Since Johannes Gutenberg first had his idea of abstracting writing from the hand and devised the West's first printing press, the history of modernity has been a history of duplication — of taking the particular, doubling it, making it universal.

Aaron Cohick, the so-called "printer of the press" at Colorado College and head of its book-binding operation, is having none of it. "There are traditional notions of what a press does," he says. "And then the question is, how can you play with those, how can you tweak those?"

He points to one of his works. "This book was originally an art history book," he says of the odd, papery object. "The alteration was this process called 'delamination,' where I cut into the surface of the sheet, and then peeled that surface away, so all the text and images are removed, and a new text that's written subtractively [cut-out letters] from the middle is put into the bottom [of each page]."

Works like these — which Cohick calls an "altered book" — will be displayed alongside others printed by the Press at CC and Cohick's own imprint, NewLights Press, at CC's Coburn Gallery for the upcoming exhibition, *Any thing that Is strang*. And yes, you read that right.

"That's actually a quote that I found in this book, *Mr. Wilson's Cabinet of Wonder*, which is about this strange museum in Los Angeles called the Museum of Jurassic Technology," he explains. "You're never really sure if the displays are real or not." Therein (apparently) "strang" appears as an obsolete spelling of the word "strange."

The exhibit will feature posters, broadsides and ephemera — artifacts of the entire printing process, including inspection slips, receipts and forms, all displayed as art. As for the content within Cohick's perennially altered forms, writers from Baltimore, New York and even Australia will be published in the works on display. Words from local writers including CC's Jessy Randall, KRCC's Noel Black, and state Poet Laureate David Mason will also be found between the hand-printed covers.

Cohick, 33, began NewLights Press in Baltimore nearly 13 years ago as a student. "I didn't know what this was the first time I came into a classroom," he says, pointing to the machinery. "Books are so complicated — to be able to control all that stuff and experiment with it, is really just a fantastic thing."

Founded in 1978 by an art professor, the CC press has been ahead of the curve ever since. "There's definitely been a huge renaissance in the last 20 years in letterpresses and making books by hand," Cohick explains. "And this Colorado College press played a big part in that."

The lurking question is "Why?" Though it's tempting to chalk up the letterpress revival to some anti-digital backlash, Cohick argues that "this renaissance has been going on for longer than computers have been a part of our daily lives."

Something else, it seems, is the hidden source of this new desire to print, not stacks upon stacks of the same thing, but a few uniquely altered ... what, exactly? We couldn't call them versions, much less copies. They are what they are: singular products of a serpentine modernity.

— scene@csindy.com

CAPSULE

Any thing that Is strang

March 25 through April 16; opening reception Friday, March 29, 4 p.m.

Colorado College's Coburn Gallery, 902 N. Cascade Ave.

Tickets: Free; for more information, call 389-6066 or visit tinyurl.com/co7vzte.

SEVEN days to LIVE

20 Wednesday

dance

Enough already with the Harlem Shake. According to dancing.org, the **Lindy Hop** is "the authentic Afro-Euro-American Swing dance," and its evolution through the first half of the 20th century moved directly through Harlem — decades before its now-memed successor. And it's continued to move: Today, you can find Midwest Lindyfests, Denver's annual Lindy on the Rocks, and even classes at **Movement Arts Community Studio** (525 E. Fountain Blvd., #150, movementartscs.com). Under the title of *Progressive Blues*, tonight's class begins at 8:30 and costs $15, though you can spend $30 and sign up for a series. ***— KW***

21 Thursday

music

James Galway — the Man with the Golden Flute, as people we've never met apparently call him — is so down with that little rod of joy he's even got his own line of edge-blown aerophones. He's a handsome dude, too, like a baby-faced Sean Connery. And we're sure, for a variety of reasons, that he would never stoop to such band-camp shenanigans as those revealed in that musical classic *American Pie*. No, Sir Galway is a consummate professional, and possibly the most successful solo flautist ever. Catch him performing with the Colorado Springs Philharmonic at the **Pikes Peak Center** (190 S. Cascade Ave., pikespeakcenter.com) at 8 tonight — tickets start at $69 — and don't forget to bring a pedestal for that dropped jaw. ***— BC***

22 Friday

music

The **Dunwells** may not be household names, at least not beyond their own households, but don't count them out just yet. England's influential *NME* described the fledgling Leeds band as a "must-see" act, while the Americana-inclined *No Depression* called them the breakout band at last year's International Folk Alliance conference. And then there's the single "I Could Be a King," a radio-ready indie-pop anthem with just enough soaring wordless harmonies, old-time banjo picking and Winston Churchill samples to win over fans of the Mumfords, Arcade Fire and WWII. You can catch them at 8 tonight in the intimacy of the **Pikes Peak Center's Studio Bee** (190 S. Cascade Ave., pikespeakcenter.com) for $20/advance, $25/door with Bronze Radio Return opening. ***— BF***

Piper Ferguson

23 Saturday
theater

Three actors, two puppeteers and giant dancing laundry — *that's* how you show what a little girl endures when she loses her most beloved stuffed animal during a family trip to the Laundromat. ***Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Musical*** opened Thursday and runs through the end of the month as part of the Second Stage Series in the Music Room at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center (30 W. Dale St., csfineartscenter.org/silverseason/secondstage.html). Tonight's performance starts at 6, with tickets at $15. **— *MG***

24 Sunday
stage

Imagine Maria from *West Side Story* living in the New York from *Inception*, during a war straight out of Philip Pullman's *His Dark Materials* series, then setting out on a *The Warriors*-like adventure to find her friend. I wish I could claim this as a creation from some dark recess of my otherwise unimaginative mind, but these are elements of ***Marisol***, a play by Puerto Rican playwright José Rivera. He earned the Off-Broadway Award for the work in 1993, and tonight it'll be performed at **THEATREdART** (128 N. Nevada Ave., theatredart.org), beginning at 8. It's $10 general admission, $5 for students. **— *MB***

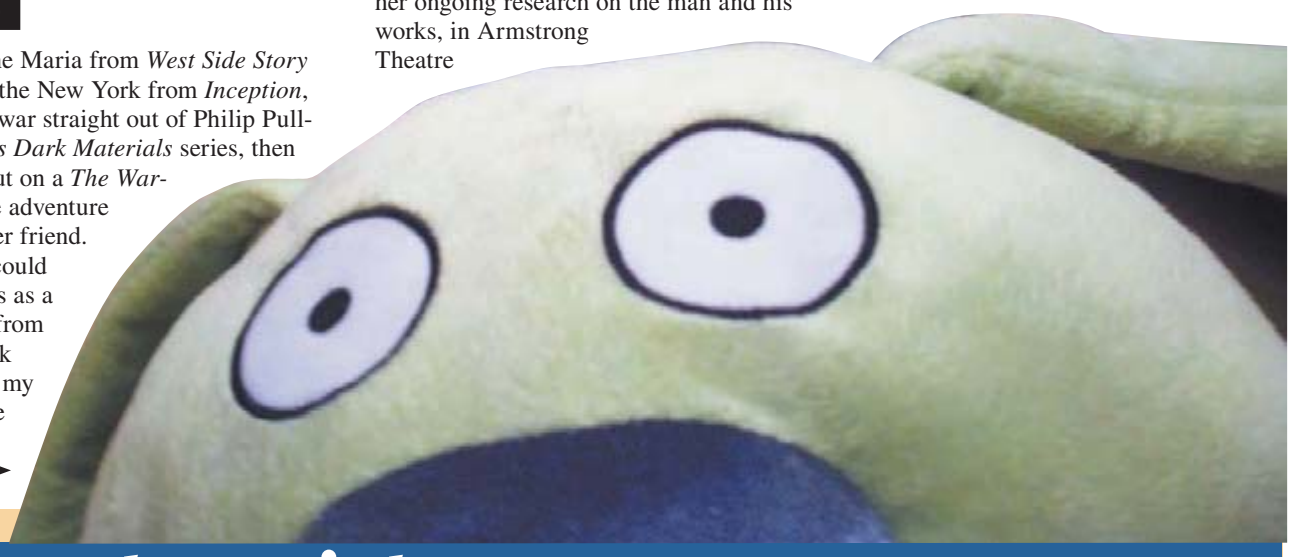
25 Monday
lecture/film

Animator Hayao Miyazaki has been part of producing brilliant and beautiful films since the early '60s. *Castle in the Sky*, *Princess Mononoke* (which won Japan's Academy Award equivalent) and *Spirited Away* are just a few that have piqued my interest — in particular for his smart and scrappy young female protagonists. Today **Colorado College** (coloradocollege.edu) hosts not one but two free Miyazaki-related events. At the first, from 11:15 a.m. to noon, Tufts University academic Susan Napier will present **"Tapestries of Apocalypse: From Angers to 'Nausicaa' and Beyond,"** which includes her ongoing research on the man and his works, in Armstrong Theatre (14 E. Cache la Poudre St.). The second is a 4 p.m. showing of his 2008 film ***Ponyo***, in the Cornerstone Arts Center Screening Room (825 N. Cascade Ave.). **— *KA***

26 Tuesday
pachyderms

In January I got a peek at the new, $13.5 million ***Encounter Africa*** exhibit at **Cheyenne Mountain Zoo** (4250 Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Road, cmzoo.org). I walked the fancy sky bridge, spied the black rhino, and watched elephants throw sand over themselves in the impressive new elephant barn. Fun stuff. And now you can check it out during the work-in-progress preview that runs through April 30, prior to more features like a 20-foot waterfall and elephant pool opening. We're still on winter hours, which means 9 to 5 (last admission at 4), and off-season admission prices ($7.25 to $14.25). **— *MS***

Contributors: Kirsten Akens, Miguel Bustamante, Bryce Crawford, Bill Forman, Matthew Grieson, Matthew Schniper and Kirk Woundy.



In retroscript
Comedian Kathleen Madigan brings her history to the stage

Kathleen Madigan is not a planner.

"Stuff just flies into my head and then I say it out loud onstage," the 47-year-old comedian says during a phone interview from her home in Los Angeles. "I do have words written down so I remember the topic — like, I'll write 'post office,' or whatever, so I remember what I'm talking about, but I don't write jokes."

It's a habit that might have been influenced by the environment in which she grew up. She describes her parents and siblings as funny in a sarcastic way — without them putting any effort into it.

"Mom's funny in a dry, dark way. My dad's more of a storyteller guy ... I would be a version of my dad, edited maybe."

Of course, what works, works. And it's worked for Madigan for 24 years. She tours regularly, has had specials on HBO, Showtime and Comedy Central, and has released four CDs and two DVDs, most recently 2010's *Gone Madigan*.

She admits, though, that the industry is changing around her. As she explains, in years past a comedian could break by just showing up on *The Tonight Show With Johnny Carson*. "That's unheard of anymore," Madigan says. "Now there's 900 channels. There's five late-night shows. There's Sirius Radio. There's regular radio. There's the web stuff.

"I'm really good friends with Lewis Black, and we always joke that we spend so much time doing media — we spend more time talking about ourselves than being ourselves. If you were a narcissist, that might sound like a lot of fun. But if you're not ... there's just a lot out there, and it's all splintered. Fractured and splintered, so you gotta kind of find your people, if you have your people."

— *Kirsten Akens*

CAPSULE

Kathleen Madigan

Saturday, March 23, 8 p.m.

Pikes Peak Center, 190 S. Cascade Ave.

Tickets: $25-$30; pikespeakcenter.com, 520-7469.

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Other options to get you excited about your week.

Backup plan
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Achieve With Us Colorado: Sprouts Film Fest, March 28 at Stargazers Theatre & Event Center

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404 Manitou Avenue, Manitou Springs | Briarhurst.com

Appetite

Overhauled icon

The old Ritz is dead, long live the new Ritz

By Matthew Schniper

If you've lived here a while, you have your own association with the Ritz Grill, be it for business lunch, happy hour, late-night dancing, etc. Mine was post-wait-shift beers a dozen years ago.

And up until last month, not much had changed since.

Brienne Boortz

Steak N' Frites deliver garlicky herb love.

The menu was supposedly being held hostage by regulars loyal to certain items. But "the general consensus was, it was tired," says Susan Ralston, Concept Restaurants director of research and development. "Only a couple items like the Voodoo Chicken had to stay. We needed to make it current."

Thus began an overhaul, with co-owners Luke Travins and Dave Lux lending oversight, MacKenzie's Chop House chef Pete Moreno providing creative input, and Ralston tinkering with dishes at home. She whittled 80 plates to 40 through a series of tastings that included the Ritz's general manager, Ben Jackson, and its chef, Joel Hirsch.

Then, prior to launching the all-day menu, $150,000 went into an interior renovation that includes a fresh bar, new upholstery and kitchen upgrades.

At this new Ritz, the phrase "improved quality" was tossed at me several times, begging the half-serious question, "What were you serving me before?" Ralston fields it well: "They used button mushrooms; we went to Shiitake. Broccoli became broccolini. It's elevating the ingredients."

Among a growing amount of locally sourced items, Denver's All American Seasonings provides a new 18-ingredient spice-herb blend for the burgers and steaks, which are now flat-top cooked instead of charbroiled. The Steak N' Frites ($16.95) is a kick-ass by-product, searing that seasoning into flatiron slices under a Béarnaise butter. Super-crisp fries tossed with olive oil, parsley, pepper and ample salt and raw garlic deliver stink-breathed bliss, not even needing the "bistro sauce" of fire-roasted tomatoes reduced with sugar and spices.

As it happens, a sugar infusion runs menu-wide, starting with the Man Candy app ($5.95) — bacon baked in brown sugar and black and crushed red pepper. Though the bacon trend feels a bit tired, everyone still loves eating it, and crumbles of the Man Candy mixed with pineapple salsa and Sriracha mayo do hit home on the Sweet Hot Bacon Burger ($9.95). Pay the $1.95 upcharge for tempura-battered asparagus fries with a fun, zesty orange aioli dip.

Jalapeño-ginger tuna tartar ($11.95) and butternut squash hummus ($7.95) with cayenne and pepitas are equally light and bright for healthy contrast, as is a Bangkok Bowl ($9.50; add protein for $1.95 to $3.95), which while still on the oversweet side for Szechuan, does sport fresh kale and veggies with brown rice and red quinoa. An Udi's brown rice and tapioca gluten-free pizza crust ($2 upcharge; one of many GF offerings) succeeds on the lovely herb oil-amped rustic pizza ($9.95).

For sandwiches: The braised short rib ($10.95), which is actually sous-vide prepped by Chicago's 150-year-old Ruprecht beef company, sports good ciabatta, peppery arugula and sweet red onion jam. The It's the Bomb ($9.75) on rye delivers deviled egg salad and thin pastrami, needing a bit more mayo and Dijon to counteract dryness. Our side cole slaw was alarmingly room temp.

Of three desserts, we ended with salted caramel crispy treats ($4.95) topped with Hershey's (house ganache would be infinitely better) and corn-syrup-maple pecans. Again, a profusion of sweetness, but admittedly palate-pleasing. The sharp new Ritz in a nutshell.

— matthew@csindy.com

CAPSULE

Ritz Grill

15 S. Tejon St., 635-8484, ritzgrill.com

11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekdays, 4:30 to 10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; limited late night menu, 10 p.m. to close nightly.

SIDE Dish

Culinary crumbs & gastronomic gossip

On the move

• **Nourish Organic Juice** (nourishorganicjuice.com), the partly mobile business that distributes its products to a handful of local natural-foods markets and eateries, will finally establish its own home retail base sometime in early April at 303 E. Pikes Peak Ave. Co-owner Evelyn Steel says that in addition to the existing menu of smoothies and juices, the expanded space, somewhat of a "mini café with comfy seating," will allow for grab-and-go salads "and other healthy snacks" from a small retail market of local products. She'll also add Switchback Coffee Roasters coffee pour-overs and some baked goods from her new kitchen, which will be dedicated gluten-free.

• Rita's Mexican Kitchen (667-7268) has moved from 405 N. Union Blvd. to the former Gotta Love It! Kitchen space at 2521 W. Colorado Ave. With the move comes a new name, **Wraps by Rita's**, and an entirely new menu and concept. Described by Rita Real's grandson, a member of the family staff, the new format is much like that of a Subway or Chipotle, wherein guests build their own burrito or taco plate at a counter for between $5.75 and $6.75. Hot dogs with Mexican toppings have also been added, with Old Colorado City tourists in mind.

• **Orchard Ovens Bakery** (orchardovensbakery.com), formerly located inside Manitou Springs' Business of Art Center, recently procured the former Opb&j and Cake Crumbs space at 3 E. Bijou St. In addition to serving breakfast items like quiches and lunch items like Cornish meat pies, the business (which will rent kitchen space to others) offers a full espresso bar, smoothies and a wide array of breads and baked goods, including gluten-free items by special order.

À la carte

• Ahead of the Ivywild School opening next month, **The Blue Star** (1645 S. Tejon St., thebluestar.net) will cease lunch operations April 1 to focus on efforts across the street, as well as to place new emphasis on its new 3-to-10-p.m. dinner menu. Patrons looking for lunchtime sustenance will find plenty of options inside Ivywild, according to a Blue Star Group representative, including pub items at Bristol Brewing Company. There'll also be house-cured meats, sandwiches, breads, pastries, coffee and cocktails from other Ivywild entities like The Old School Bakery and The Principal's Office.

• I'll be assisting chef Jay Gust of TAPAteria (and Pizzeria Rustica, as of March 1) in the chef-media cooking competition at the 18th annual **Pikes Peak Food and Wine Expo** on Sunday, March 24 at the Broadmoor's Broadmoor Hall (1 Lake Ave., ppcra.org). Tickets to sample widely from more than 65 food and drink vendors are a worthwhile $30. That'll let you see the new bartender competition as well.

Side note: Congrats to Gust for recently making the inaugural edition of *Best Chefs in America* (bestchefsamerica.com).

— Matthew Schniper

APPETIZERS

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382-7562
cmoninnfountain.com
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Hatchcover Bar & Grill
252 E. Cheyenne Mtn. Blvd.
(@ 115)
719-576-5223
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101 N.Tejon on Kiowa St.
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supernovabarcode.com

Thunder & Buttons II
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Colorado Springs
447-9888
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228-6566
tonysdowntownbar.com
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1701 A South 8th Street
719-635-0200
buffalogalsgrilling.com
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634-1007
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15 S. Tejon St.
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3316 Cinema Point Dr.
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CAFE & DELI

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634-9016
Hours: open daily 6am - 4pm (closed Sundays). Family owned and operated since 1979. Milt's homemade soups, sandwiches and dinners. Chicken noodle soup every day. Breakfast served all day. All you can eat biscuits and gravy, Southern Colorado's best green chili. A variety of excellent chef's salads.

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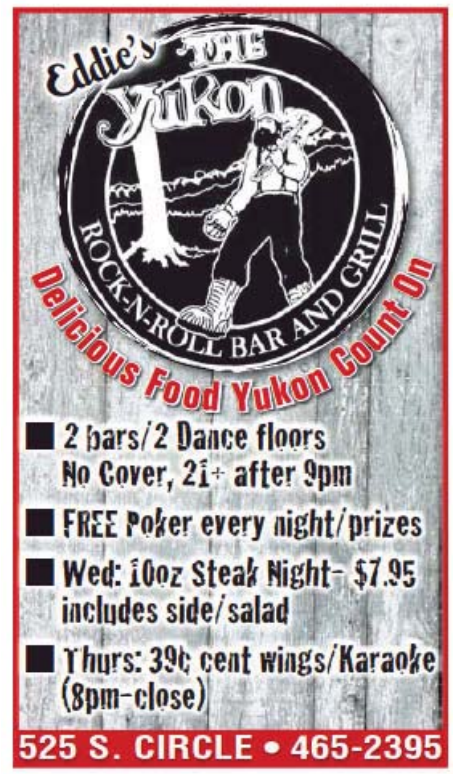

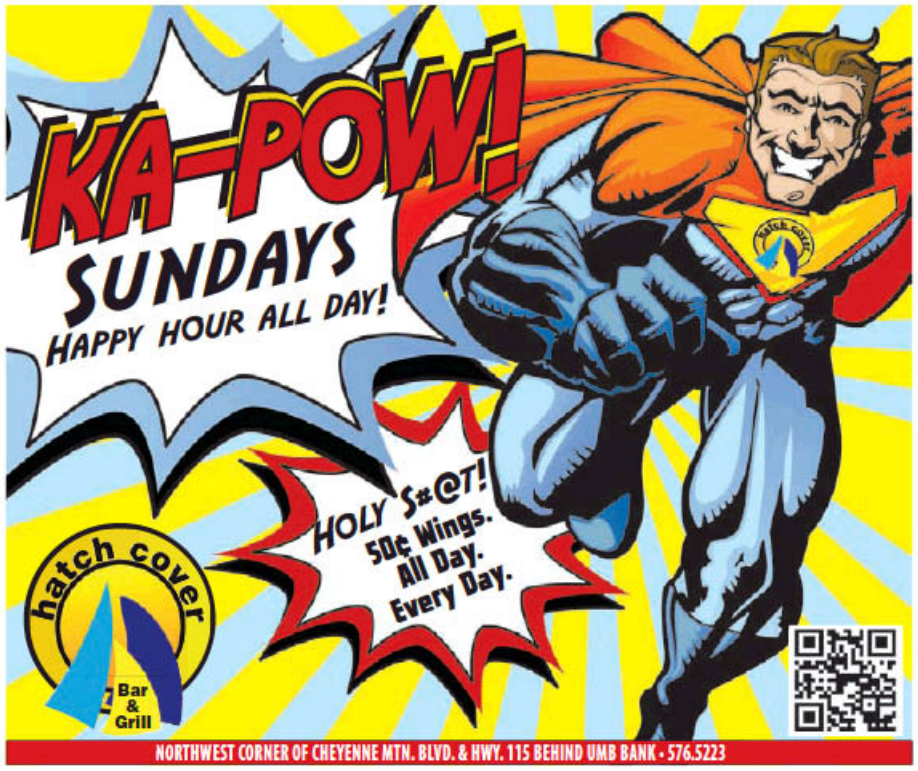

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(Next to Imax Theater)
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www.arharnthai.net

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719-574-3401
bhanthaico.com

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Jun
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3276 Centennial Blvd., 227-8690

Hours: Mon-Fri 11-2, Sat noon-3. Sun-Thurs 5-9pm, Fri-Sat 5-10. Happy hour, daily 5-6, Fri-Sat 9-10. Full Japanese menu including teriyaki, tempura and a thorough sushi selection. Jun serves both foreign and domestic beers, as well as sake and wine.

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Non-profits save the world pg 4

Healing through stories pg 5

Another Way In pg 7

issue four
Spring 2013

MARMAPOINTS
the intersections of mind, body and spirit

Why Not Frack? by Bill McKibben

The reason environmentalists prefer gas to coal is simple: when burned, it produces about half as much carbon dioxide per unit of energy. That is, if we could convert our coal-fired power plants to natural gas (which in most cases is not that hard to do), carbon emissions would drop. But it's actually not that simple. Natural gas—CH4—in its unburned state is a remarkably powerful greenhouse gas itself, molecule for molecule many times stronger than CO2. So if even a little bit leaks out to the atmosphere in the drilling process, gas, according to some estimates, can cause even more global warming than coal.

The data showing just how much it would do so are scarce. An early study from Robert Howarth at Cornell found that fracked gas might do 20 percent more damage to the climate, at least over the next few crucial decades, than coal. In 2011, another Cornell team, using different leakage rates, found that it might be only half as bad as coal. More data may eventually clarify the extent of the threat. But fracked gas is not as clear a winner in this fight as many had originally assumed.

There's a deeper question still. If we increased the use of natural gas, it would replace some coal from the planet's power-generating mix. But it would also crowd out truly low-carbon sources of power: abundant and cheap natural gas would make it that much harder to get sun and wind (or, if it's your cup of hot water, nuclear power) up and running on a large scale.

The rush to exploit "extreme energy," and to rip the planet apart to get at it, knows no national boundaries. Ian Urbina, a New York Times journalist, reported last year that the big energy companies have spread the fracking technology around the planet, finding new shale deposits in more than thirty countries.

One can reasonably expect that if regulators are overwhelmed in Pennsylvania, the same may be the case among the shale deposits in Papua New Guinea. In any event, it should by now be clear that fracked gas is not a "bridge fuel" to some cleaner era, but a rickety pier extending indefinitely out into a hotter future. This is one of those (not rare) cases where abundance may prove a great problem.

Bill McKibben has been called 'the planet's best green journalist' by Time Magazine and 'probably the country's most important environmentalist' by the Boston Globe. Elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2011, recipient of Guggenheim and Lyndhurst Fellowships, and a scholar in residence at Middlebury College, Bill currently resides in Vermont with his wife, writer Sue Halpern, and his daughter Sophie.

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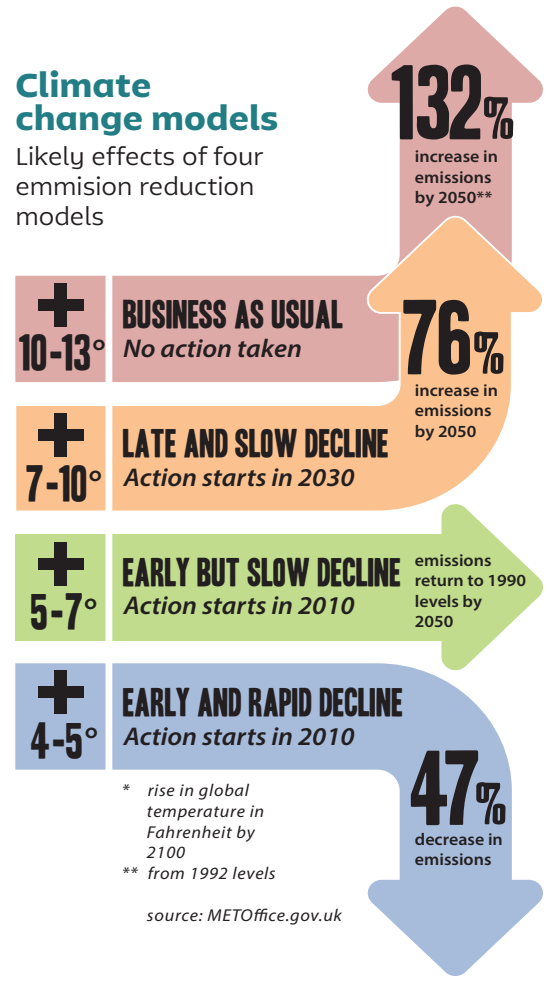
Climate change models

Likely effects of four emmision reduction models



Water fouled with chemicals spews near Windsor by Bruce Finley

Bruce Finley, a former contributor to The Economist and CNN and a current staff writer for The Denver Post, focuses on environmental news here in the Rocky Mountain West. He has designed and guest-taught courses at Colorado College and is also board member of the Denver Council on Foreign Relations. A longtime soccer player and mountaineer, he enjoys skiing, traveling and camping with his family.

State regulators say at least 84,000 gallons of water contaminated with oil and chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing spilled from a broken well-head about 4 miles north of Windsor, CO, starting about 9:30 a.m. Monday, February 11, 2013

A mechanical failure sent a smelly stream of steaming, greenish fluid onto soil and required fire trucks testing air every 30 minutes to ensure leaking natural gas was not about to explode and the use of a vacuum truck to try to suck up the liquid, state natural resources spokesman Todd Hartman said. The flow from the well bore was stopped more than 30 hours later.

This spill ranked 55th in volume out of 5,177 spills recorded in the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission database, kept since 2008.

A Jan. 22 spill, also by PDC Energy, released 2,880 gallons of oil and covered 3,900 square feet, leaving groundwater contaminated with benzene at a concentration 128 times higher than the state limit along with toluene and xylene chemicals.

About 17 percent of 2,078 oil and gas spills that companies reported since January 2008 have contaminated groundwater. Fracking wastewater is one of the most common substances spilled.

Read more at www.denverpost.com/environment. Copyright © 2013 The Denver Post. All rights reserved.

MARMAPOINTS

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Send submissions via email, or to:

Marmapoints Magazine
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Submissions should include the writer's full name, address and home telephone and may be edited for the purposes of clarity and space.

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Back Issues Contact us at
help@marmapoints.org

marmapoints.org

MARMALADE at Smokebrush

CLASS SCHEDULE

219 W. Colorado Avenue
Colorado Springs, Co
smokebrush.org

MONDAY
AYURVEDA YOGA
w/ Justin Kovach
9:30-10:45am
SLOW FLOW YOGA
w/ Jan Burgie
12:15-1:15pm
KUNDALINI YOGA
w/ Kim Miller
5:30-7:00pm
MONDAY NIGHT YOGA
w/ Kat Tudor
7:15-8:30pm

TUESDAY
YOGA FOR HEALING
w/ Kat Tudor
12:15-1:30pm
IYENGAR YOGA
w/ Gail Ackerman
5:30-7:00pm

WEDNESDAY
BODY SCULPTING YOGA
w/ Juan Flores
9:30-10:30am
IYENGAR YOGA
w/ Peggy Berg
12:15-1:30pm
SANKALP YOGA
w/ Sudhanshu Semwal
4:00-5:15pm
KUNDALINI YOGA
w/David Barfoot
5:30-6:40pm

THURSDAY
SLOW FLOW YOGA
w/ Jan Burgie
8:45-9:45am
YOGA FOR HEALING
w/ Kat Tudor
12:15-1:30pm
IYENGAR YOGA
w/ Gail Ackerman
5:30-7:00pm

FRIDAY
RESTORATIVE YOGA
w/ Kat Tudor
9:30-11:00am
HEART-FLOW YOGA
w/ Justin Kovach
12:15-1:15pm

SATURDAY
TANTRIC CONNECTIONS
w/ Kim Miller
9:15-10:45am
BELLY DANCE FOR BEGINNERS
w/ Sareet
11:00-12:00pm

SUNDAY
KUNDALINI YOGA
w/ David Barfoot
9:00-10:30am
COMMUNITY YOGA
w/ Justin Kovach
11:00-12:00pm
IYENGAR YOGA
w/ Peggy Berg
2:00-3:30pm
SUN MOUNTAIN SANGHA
4:00-5:30pm

Letter from the Publisher

Why are you holding this Marmapoints supplement in your hands right now?

Because our good friends at the Independent allowed us to purchase 8 pages at a special non-profit rate in their fine publication so we can spread the word about our mission to make everyone in the Pikes Peak region healthier and more aware. And while our previous editions have been yoga-focused, our mission now has expanded to explore the ramifications of issues that affect our health and wellness, such as fracking.

So, welcome to our fourth quarterly print edition of Marmapoints. I can't count the number of people that have e-mailed, called, Facebooked or shouted to me across a grocery store aisle how much Marmapoints has positively impacted their health and wellness on one level or another. Thank you for taking the time to read these pages, and I'd also like to invite you to help keep the conversation going by joining us at marmapoints.org, leaving comments and feedback, and getting started on your own submission!

Don Goede
publisher@marmapoints.org

How
Do I
Listen to others?
As if everyone
were my Master
Speaking to me
His
Cherished
Last
Words.

- Hafiz,
translation Daniel Ladinsky

Listening to ourselves by Gail Gustafson

Many practitioners I meet are trained to listen to 'others'. What many of us lack is the skill of listening to ourselves while we speak. When we are angry, overly excited, or just tired, we can lose our ability to listen altogether. Training to listen to others and to our own voice leads to a vibrant, compassionate life.

Fifteen years ago, a Buddhist Teacher said one sentence to me: Listen to your own voice while you speak. Since then, I have worked with with this seemingly simple method of developing compassion. It has proven invaluable in almost all of my interactions. You can do it too:

1. **Compassion** The purpose of this practice is to develop compassion, the wish that all beings be free of suffering. All beings includes yourself and anything or anyone you consider 'other'.

2. **Intention** At the beginning of the day, set your intention to listen to your own voice while speaking. Choose 1-2 neutral situations that you can practice in later.

3. **Energy** Listening to your own voice while speaking requires balanced energy. You are training to listen with your heart while interacting. It's helpful to have a stable experience of mindfulness (ability to rest) and awareness (the ability to know what is going on) cultivated through meditation. But even without that stability, practice will bear fruit.

4. **Warmth & Curiosity** If you start to feel cold, dull, rigid or isolated, you're not on the right track. Return to your body and relax. Allow warmth & openness to return.

5. **Wish** At the end of the day, take a few moments to recall what you learned. Set free the judgmental, achieving mind. Form the wish that everyone will develop the skill of Awake Listening. MP

State Oil and Gas Regulators Still Spread Thin

by Abrahm Lustgarten, ProPublica

The U.S. relies on state and federal regulators to make sure that oil and gas drilling is done safely, and that trillions of gallons of toxic waste injected into underground disposal wells do not contaminate water supplies.

ProPublica has updated its database on oversight of production and waste wells, adding records for 2010 and 2011 — the most recent year available for many states — to data from 2003 to 2009. We've added information about agencies' budgets, as well as the total number of injection wells they are responsible for overseeing.

The data shows some states have hired more inspectors or otherwise increased their enforcement capacity. Still, the ratio of wells to inspectors remains extremely high, and the volume of waste being pumped underground has ballooned, driven in large part to the boom in drilling made possible by fracking.

Over a five-year span, ProPublica has investigated the risks from fracking and the expanding system of underground injection wells, often finding that regulatory agencies have fallen short in enforcing critical environmental protections.

In 2009, we found that the state oil and gas agencies charged with overseeing fracking and the drilling of natural gas were often woefully understaffed, just as the largest drilling boom in the recent history was ramping up.

In 2012, we investigated how the same agencies and the federal government were monitoring roughly 700,000 underground disposal wells in the U.S., of which more than 150,000 are used for waste from oil and gas drilling.

Our examination of records summarizing more than 220,000 well inspections conducted between late 2007 and late 2010 showed that fundamental safeguards are sometimes ignored or circumvented. We found records showing that more than 7,000 wells had leaked, and that more than 17,000 wells had failed structural tests.

Because of a lack of regulatory resources, our reporting showed, disposal wells often don't get the oversight that they need.

According to ProPublica's September, 2012 report:

> State and federal regulators often do little to confirm what pollutants go into wells for drilling waste. They rely heavily on an honor system in which companies are supposed to report what they are pumping into the earth, whether their wells are structurally sound, and whether they have violated any rules.
>
> More than 1,000 times in the three-year period examined, operators pumped waste into Class 2 wells at pressure levels they knew could fracture rock and lead to leaks. In at least 140 cases, companies injected waste illegally or without a permit.
>
> In several instances, records show, operators did not meet requirements to identify old or abandoned wells near injection sites until waste flooded back up to the surface, or found ways to cheat on tests meant to make sure wells aren't leaking. MP

Abrahm Lustgarten reports on energy, environment and climate change issues for ProPublica in New York. His investigation into fracking was recognized with the George Polk award for environmental reporting. He also received an Emmy nomination for his reporting on BP and the Deepwater Horizon tragedy.

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Non-profits save the world

Protesting the Keystone XL pipeline, the rally moves toward the White House. The President's approval of Keystone XL would lock the U.S. into a long-term commitment to an energy infrastructure that relies on tar sand oil.

350.org

On Sunday, February 17, 2013, nearly 50,000 people gathered on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. for the Forward on Climate Rally, organized by 350.org.

"For 25 years our government has basically ignored the climate crisis: now people in large numbers are finally demanding they get to work. We shouldn't have to be here, science should have decided our course long ago. But it takes a movement to stand up to all that money," said Bill McKibben, 350.org co-founder, in an event statement.

350.org has mobilized writers, scholars, activists, leaders, and visionaries to build a global grassroots movement to solve the climate crisis. Since 2008, their work and message have helped coordinate over 20,000 climate demonstrations in more than 182 countries.

The number 350 represents climate safety. To preserve our hospitable planet, we must do everything we can to reduce the amount of CO2 in the atmosphere from its current level of over 395 parts per million to below 350 ppm. As such, 350 is more than a number - it's a symbol of where we need to head as a planet and a global society.

Accelerated arctic warming and other early climate impacts have led scientists to conclude that we are well above the safe zone, and that unless we find measures to rapidly return to below 350 ppm this century, we'll reach tipping points and cause irreversible impacts such as the melting of the Greenland ice sheet and major methane releases from permafrost melt.

In his recent State of the Union Address, President Obama said, "We can choose to believe that Superstorm Sandy, and the most severe drought in decades, and the worst wildfires some states have ever seen were all just a freak coincidence. Or we can choose to believe in the overwhelming judgment of science - and act before it's too late." MP

ProPublica.org

Conserving the best traditions of American journalism, ProPublica is an independent, non-profit newsroom with a real mission: "To expose abuses of power and betrayals of the public trust by government, business, and other institutions, using the moral force of investigative journalism to spur reform through the sustained spotlighting of wrongdoing."

The watchdog editors and 38 working journalists at ProPublica in Manhattan are dedicated to ongoing investigations of the nation's most pressing and underreported issues. To ensure that "deep dive" stories are given the exposure they deserve, they are selectively offered to traditional news organizations for publication or broadcast, free of charge. In 2012, ProPublica published more than 80 such stories with more than 25 different partners. And in the spirit of free information, nearly all their online stories are reprintable, without cost, under a Creative Commons license.

ProPublica.org is a clearinghouse for some fine reporting on fracking. Because no article can cover all the major issues raised by fracking, ProPublica has published more than 150 original stories on the subject. The website also features watchdog reporting by other journalists to promote excellent work in the marginalized field of whistleblowing journalism.

In less than five years ProPublica has garnered five Emmy nominations, a 2011 Pulitzer Prize for National Reporting, a 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting and dozens of other significant awards and distinctions. Utilizing an annual budget of about roughly $10 million in 2012, some 85 percent of expenses go to news - compared with about 15 percent for leading newspapers and magazines. The result, at ProPublica.org, is an indespensible guide to navigating the substance of the country's most pressing and complex issues.

MP

Former managing editor of The Wall Street Journal and founder and executive chairman of ProPublica, Paul Steiger (left), toasts Jake Bernstein and Jesse Eisinger on their Pulitzer Prize for National Reporting.

Deep Connection and Healing Through Stories

by Chaplain Rev. Steve Alsum

I'd long known the powerful connection that comes from listening to someone's story, most chaplains carry that tool, but a couple of summers ago, I began to realize the therapeutic power of hearing stories.

After giving a talk at a medical conference in Santa Fe in 2011, I stayed around to hear what the other presenters had to say.

Dr. Lewis Mehl-Madrona, MD, a Stanford-trained doctor steeped in Cherokee and Lakota traditional medicine, gave a presentation titled 'Your Brain on Story.' As the author of the book *Healing the Mind through the Power of Story: the Promise of Narrative Psychiatry,* he knows the power and calm energy present in storytelling and storylistening.

Two of his points have stayed with me.

First, as humans we've evolved to understand the world and to find meaning through the use of narrative. Stories are how we construct our lives and make sense of them. When we share, they weave our lives in community.

Second, Dr. Mehl-Madrona shared the phenomenal and unforgettable results of a brilliant neuroimaging experiment. Research participants were given tasks to think through during MRI scans. Then during another scan they were told stories from First American traditions. The results were incredible. The brain scans showed deeper metabolic rest when listening to a story than any other activity, including sleep. Parents who tell bedtime stories already know this is true for children; it is also true for adults. Listening to stories gives our minds a rest, and allows them to heal.

I was very eager to get back to my hospice patients to see what telling stories could do for them. Was this a way to help them find a bit more relief and comfort?

I started with two women who tugged at my heartstrings and who I had been visiting with over a year. I began to tell them stories.

The big challenge was finding the right stories. Initially I had very limited success, barely seeing any impact, just enough to keep me going. They kept listening, and keeping eye-contact, and that was good, but I wanted more…so I kept experimenting with various stories.

The brain scans showed deeper metabolic rest when listening to a story than any other activity, including sleep.

I tried my cowboy story: A teenage cowboy gets a summer job at a neighbor's ranch. He's warned to not ride a wild mare or he will be fired. The boss leaves for the day and his red-headed, green-eyed daughter comes over to the stables and says, "I hear no one can ride that mare, but I also hear you're one of the best riders in the state."

Yes, he got fired.

Those precious patients laughed at just the right moments. And their minds calmed. They listened with their eyes fixed on mine.

As I was searching for more stories I stumbled onto the work of Uri Hasson, Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology at Princeton University. Hasson studies the brain while doing normal daily activities such as listening to music. When he finally studied the brain of someone telling a story and the brains of those listening, he made a beautiful discovery: the brainwaves of the story teller made a distinctive pattern that is repeated, practically mirrored, in the brains of listeners. Hasson also found it didn't make a difference if listeners heard live readings or recordings of a story.

When I tell my stories, I know my brain waves are acting in a natural way, with specific patterns that are replicated in the brains of my audience. For dementia patients, I keep the stories to less than five minutes. I have an introduction, a problem with an anticipated plot, turning-point and resolution. I know we are connected when they laugh or hold their breaths at the right moment.

A hospice RN watched over my shoulder declaring, "Wow. I have never seen 'Mrs. Verrall' like this; she's calm, and her attention is focused. She's really listening to you. I'm astonished." I had just finished telling 'Mrs. Verrall', who has severe dementia, a story from the life of an old cowboy friend. Telling the story took less than five minutes, but for the next forty-five she was calm and focused.

Is it possible that I am lending my mind to those whose minds are no longer strong?

'Mrs. Verrall' retold me my cowboy story with notable precision, and to my complete surprise, she added features from her life. Then she told stories from her life, stories she had been unable to tell for a number of years. Learning about her, her life, about what is important to her and gives her meaning…this is very spiritual. Since story is how we make sense of our world, her story helps her look at her own life with sense, with purpose, with its joys and blessings, and its challenges.

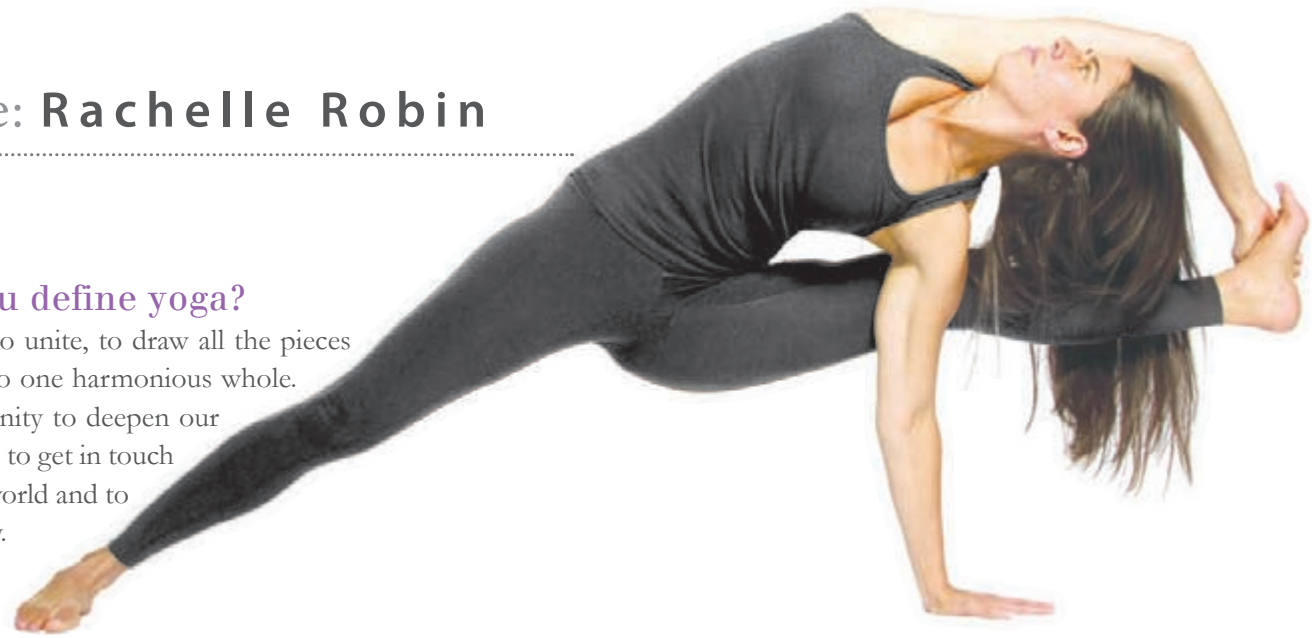
Her story declares: I had a place and purpose in this world. I lived a life.

Telling stories and listening to stories is good for us. Listening will heal our neural pathways. It makes me believe we are most human when stories are shared, heard and told. One of the most natural and communal human activities, let us share our stories, our minds, and together make some sense of our lives and our world. MP

Steve Alsum is a hospice chaplain at Pikes Peak Hospice & Palliative Care in Colorado Springs who has discovered that telling stories to patients with diminishing memory and fading cognitive abilities often helps them to better think, organize their thoughts and remember life.

Steve and his wife attend The Story Project at Marmalade at Smokebrush where producer and director Sharon Friedman creates a space for storytellers every second Friday of the month. Sharon is affected by a vocal dystonia which makes her voice quiver. However when she listens to stories, her voice is more calm, and her words smoother. After hearing how Steve began using stories in his work, Sharon said, "Now I know why I am drawn to The Story Project - stories help me. Listening to stories heals my neural pathways."

Yoga Teacher Profile: **Rachelle Robin**



How do you define yoga?

Yoga means to unite, to draw all the pieces of ourselves into one harmonious whole. It is an opportunity to deepen our breath, to pause, to get in touch with our inner world and to live authentically.

What and where do you teach?

In 2000, I was introduced to the practice of Anusara yoga.

This practice completely transformed my world. I loved the philosophy and alignment principles.

I become a Certified Anusara Yoga Teacher in August of 2008. I remained a licensed Anusara yoga teacher through the end of 2011 and have decided not to renew my license. I feel at this point in my life I am integrating all that I have learned over the years and authentically sharing the practice of yoga as best as I know how.

I teach Hatha yoga classes at Playoga Studio on Thursday evenings from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m., and occasionally teach the Tigress Practice, which is a two and a half hour intermediate/advanced teacher-led practice. This is one of my favorite classes to teach.

I also rent space at the Stetson Hills Jazzercise Studio and offer classes there three days a week, Monday and Wednesdays from 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. and on Saturdays from 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. I advertise my teaching there under the name Groovin' Spirit Yoga and Wellness.

How has yoga changed you?

Yoga has helped me to love and appreciate myself for who I am. It has taught me to feel comfortable in my own skin and love the body I have been given. It has expanded my awareness to honestly look at my behaviors and habitual patterns, to accept them and to lovingly shift the ones that don't serve me or others.

It has empowered me and strengthened my confidence, a quality I feel that I lacked for a good majority of my life. Yoga has helped me to recognize my self-worth, a quality independent of external circumstances. It has taught me to engage in healthy relationships, have clear boundaries and surround myself with good company, for we are the company we keep.

One piece of yogic teaching you would share with the world if you could?

Just practice! My teacher Dave Oliver always said the hardest part of practice was showing up. He used to say that he didn't care if we just showed up for savasana, he just wanted us to show up. You don't have to be able to touch your toes in a forward fold and you don't have to be flexible to practice. Flexibility is just one of the many benefits the practice of yoga has to offer.

MP

Find Rachelle at her classes around town, facebook.com/groovinspirityoga or email her: groovin@groovinspirit.com.

The Stories We Tell Ourselves

by Erin Trauth

When encountering new opportunities and people on our path, it's all too common for us to tell ourselves, both consciously and subconsciously, "I'm not quite ready for these changes."

What supports these flimsy misgivings? Our stories. They're more than enough proof to convince us we're not smart enough to take on that ambitious project, that we're not strong enough to take the next step in our relationships, that we couldn't really commit to an ideal daily practice. Because thoughts become things, this alone can hold us back. Even if we move forward in the physical, the stories we tell ourselves keep us from truly being drawn into opportunities and deeper relationships.

The key to snapping out of this pattern of thinking is to remain present. The only moment that matters is now. And if we got ourselves to this moment – to this point of new opportunity, to the presence of this new person, or just making it to the yoga mat today – then we are certainly worthy, smart, and strong enough to be in the moment. The story we tell ourselves can then become "I am here. And therefore I am part of this." Once we realize this, the stories can only exist as part of the present. "I cannot" becomes "I am," and we can take on anything this life presents us with.

MP

Bön, the Indigenous Religion of Tibet

Bön is Tibet's oldest spiritual tradition and, as the indigenous source of Tibetan culture, played a significant role in shaping Tibet's unique identity." - Dalai Lama

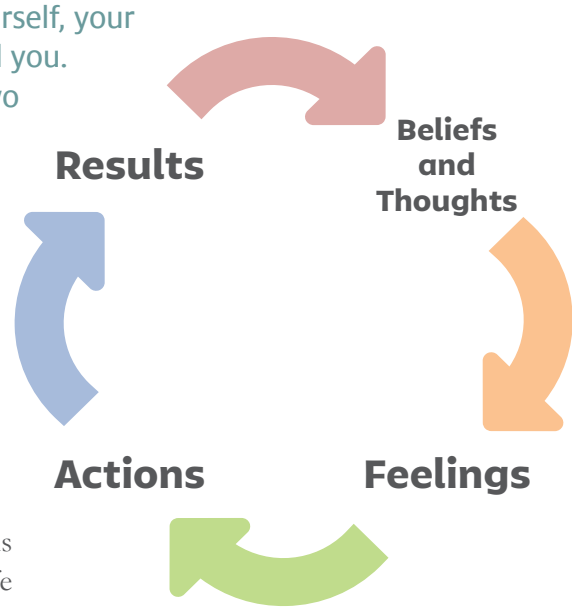
Bön's heritage includes medical therapies, rituals for psychological contentment, systems of divination and special rites for environmental harmony. These activities emphasize our human power to heal physical, environmental and spiritual suffering. Interested in this storehouse of little-known Tibetan traditions? A good history and introduction to the Bön lineage can be found at ligmincha.org.

Jacob Kelly, a devoted local student of Bön, has organized a Bön practice sanga that meets once a month at The Movement Arts Community Studio, 525 E. Fountain Blvd., Suite 150, on alternating second Friday evenings at 6:30 p.m. and fourth Sunday evenings at 4:30 p.m.

Another way in

by Kayla Shaw

Discovering where you hold resistance in your body can help take away your anxiety and lead to an expanded awareness of yourself, your worldview and the people around you. Resistance and anxiety are the two most common obstacles sitting on the path to your personal growth. Anxiety bypasses the rational mind while resistance is the normal reaction to relieve your anxieties. Follow these simple tips to understand how you process anxiety and then turn it into a useful emotion.



1. Think of a situation that is causing you anxiety in your life right now. On a piece of paper, write a few sentences describing it.
2. Ask yourself: How do I know when I am feeling anxious? What are the signals in my body that tell my brain I'm feeling anxious? How would my life look if this issue was already resolved?
3. Write down 2-3 emotions that come over you when you think about the situation and identify where these feelings are in your body. Point to the specific area and describe the physical sensations. Try to note everything about the sensation such as: temperature, numbness, shape, texture and the direction the feeling is spinning (forward and backwards, side to side, etc.)
4. Take one of those characteristics of the sensation and intensify it. If it is hot, make it hotter. If it is spinning, spin it faster. Just as you can make the sensation more intense, you can weaken it as well. If the emotion feels colored fiery red make it blue, if the emotion is grating or rough make it smooth, etc. This may sound strange, but it works. Use your imagination, and practice! Once you understand how you experience certain emotions, you can intensify the emotion, weaken the emotion or change it to another emotion.
5. Explore your different emotions, both good and bad using this method. Try stepping back and observing the emotion objectively. Now that you're more open to insights, step forward, even if it's just one more step in a looser frame of mind, this is your tunnel through the mountain
6. Always, always, always listen to your intuition! If you feel like you are truly not ready to change, then take some time and reassess your situation when you are in a better place.

If this is your first time trying a technique like this, it is normal to feel no measurable shift. As with any other skill, practice brings fluency. Emotions want to change, so change them to improve your moods and perceptions. MP

Kayla Shaw is a Certified Hypnotherapist and Psychotherapist in private practice, specializing in brief therapies. While coaching clients on nearly any issue, she is best with grief and loss issues, sexual issues within relationships, and helping others find their purpose in life. Check out her website at panaceabrieftherapies.com.

Fracku by Kat Tudor

Frack and we'll **crack up**
our **creeks** and wither our **wells.**
Earth never forgets

Motherfrackers **drill**
into her **breast** and **take** what
they want - **gassy milk**

No one wins, fracking.
Not the **earth.** Not the **people.**
Someone **pockets dirt**

So close to **fracking**
In our **minds,** but our hearts **skip**
A beat at **hell's gate**

Hot and toxic, like
Our lakes and **creeks** and deep wells
When **fracking** has his way with us

Stay. Dear heart, crouching
Down and **near the earth**
Where all our **hearts beat**

Be well, now, as though
The earth depended on **your**
mad devotion, bliss

Asana for Anxiety and Depression

by Deborah Patz Clarke

In states of near-constant stress, the sympathetic nervous system goes into overdrive and eventually begins to break down, potentially creating numerous problems that include depression and anxiety. The emphasis on deep, steady breath in asana (yoga posture) practice brings this system into homeostasis, helping us achieve a balanced emotional state. Asana practice also stimulates the release of endorphins, the brain's "feel good" neurotransmitter.

All yoga postures can help us move further in our journey toward balance, or satva. As in any yoga practice, please modify postures to work with your body. Remember that your body, like your moods, changes from day to day and what is easy on one day may feel impossible the next. Practicing at home is an ideal time to explore this fluctuation.

As yoga therapist Bo Forbes says, "Yoga doesn't erase difficulty, it illuminates it." So pay attention to what comes up for you during this practice, and become aware of habits of the mind as they manifest on the mat. You'll be more attuned to recognizing and releasing negative thoughts and patterns when they arise off the mat.

Deborah Patz Clarke, PsyD, RYT is a licensed clinical psychologist and yoga therapist who has practiced yoga for more than 20 years. Training with Baron Baptiste, Bryan Kest, Bo Forbes and Gurmukh, her style in both yoga and therapy is straightforward, compassionate, challenging and honest. Debby can be reached at FindingOm.net.

Child's pose

1

Knees wide, big toes touch, forehead to the mat; hips rest on heels, palms rest on the floor in front of you.

Physiological benefits: Child's pose slows down the heart rate, fosters full body relaxation and begins to open hips, low back and shoulders.

Looking inward: Take stock of your body, checking in with how you are feeling, both in your body and emotionally. Be honest with yourself about what you bring to the mat at this moment. As T.K.V. Desikachar says, "Our point of departure for practice will be different every day... The situation from which we begin our practice is constantly changing." If you can begin to put this into practice with your physical self on the mat, you can begin to extend this same kindness off the mat, honoring your emotional needs from day to day, moment to moment.

Transition: Turn over onto back, lift hips into next pose.

Legs up pose

3

Physiological benefits: Inversions increase blood supply to the brain and, according to B.K.S. Iyengar, help relieve the irritation, short temper and insomnia often present in anxiety and depression. It reverses gravity on the body, stimulates the lymphatic and immune systems and drains metabolic waste from the legs.

Looking inward: As you allow your body to melt into the floor, become aware of any resistance you have to this posture, especially if you are an advanced practitioner or "Type A" person. Practice using the breath to stay present and halt your cycle of reactiveness.

Transition: Come to laying down. Cross left knee gently over your center line while being mindful of keeping the shoulders resting on the floor.

Supported bridge

2

Lift hips into bridge pose. Slide a block underneath the sacrum in whatever direction works for you, shifting until you find the "sweet spot." There should be no pain in the lower back.

Physiological benefits: Supported bridge opens the heart, stimulates the nervous system and literally reverses the typical postures of depression (rounded shoulders and caved-in chest.) It also strengthens the thighs and glutes.

Looking inward: We crave connection, yet armor ourselves against being hurt, hunching our shoulders and caving the chest to protect our hearts. In this posture we open the heart and shoulders, leaving the entire front of our bodies vulnerable. At the same time, we are supported by the block, enabling us to remain in this position longer than we might otherwise. In what ways can you allow yourself to be helped, to be vulnerable, to try something in a way you haven't yet? Pay attention to emotions that arise in this exposed yet supported posture. Who are you shutting out, what help are you turning away, what opportunities are you shutting off because of fear?

Transition: Come out of bridge and sit parallel to a wall. Recline and pivot so that the glutes are against the wall.

Supine spinal twist

4

Physiological benefits: Twists detoxify the internal organs, glands and muscles of the midsection, including the kidneys. They flush the spinal nervous system with fresh blood and promote mental balance.

Looking inward: Everything does not need to be hard. Life is not meant to be an uphill battle. Breathe, relax, feel the practice working for you.

Transition: After stretching both sides, relax with arms out to the sides, legs down.

Corpse pose

5

Physiological benefits: Corpse pose allows for total physical relaxation and integration of all preceding postures.

Looking inward: You are a human being, not a human doing. In this posture let yourself just be. Release the need to do anything more active than allow your body to inhale and exhale. It is when we let go of struggle that we begin to step into our power.

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3014 E. Colfax Ave., Denver, 720/389-8109, odelaytacos.com

Attached to the Beetle Bar and Thirty Fourteen, Odelay feels like the competitive answer to nearby Pinche Taqueria. But while it bests Pinche on prices, it simply can't touch it on gourmet finesse and cool factor — even if the wall-sized print of Elvis staring through Gloria Pall's shapely legs in *Jailhouse Rock* is pretty sweet.

Odelay serves two-for-one margaritas and $2 Tecate cans daily from 3 to 6, but Tuesdays are the day to go. That's when you get two tacos for $2, excluding the $2.99 **tilapia taco** and best-of-the-batch **3014 taco**, a mix of crunchy bacon, chewy carne asada and flavorful bell peppers and onions bound by melted cheese. The fish sports a great habañero-mango puree (forgotten on my order, thus tried on another taco) and fresh cabbage. The tempeh-bearing, vegetarian **Beetle Bar taco** also stands out, while the **Odelay**, **shrimp**, **carnitas**, **pollo** and regular **carne asada** tacos are just serviceable. — ***Matthew Schniper***

Tavern at the Broadmoor

1 Lake Ave., 577-5772, broadmoor.com/tavern

In late February, as it unveiled a bright, beautiful new atrium space called Le Jardin, this 74-year-old casual Broadmoor eatery also launched an almost entirely new menu. Under a striking new 16-foot chandelier earlier this month, I was treated to a media lunch as part of the resort's Sommelier Boot Camp. (And if you think you won't receive equal treatment, you just don't understand five-star service.)

Between three appetizers and five entrées shared among our table, absolutely nothing faltered, and several flavors stunned. Cases in point: slivers of grapefruit brilliantly paired with Maine lobster as part of the shellfish platter (for two, $38); yolk bleeding from a poached egg over a killer crab cake floating in spinach cream sauce ($13); and chimichurri with garlic confit over an applewood-smoked bacon that was more like thick ham ($10). Just go look at the photos in my recent blog post at csindy.com ... you'll see. — ***Matthew Schniper***

Firemans Brew

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Blondes, brunettes and redheads — respectively pilsner, Dopplebock and amber brews (around $10 for each six-pack). They're the trade craft of Firemans Brew, which donates a percentage of its proceeds to the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. The company only recently began distributing in Colorado (the first state outside California), marketing with cheeseball slogans like "Extinguish your thirst" and "Ignite the party."

All three of these have been mostly panned on popular online review sites, and we'll pile on in the case of the overly bready, heavy-on-the-tongue, 5-percent ABV **Blonde**. But the bittersweet, roast-forward, 8-percent ABV **Brunette**, with stout-esque chocolate malt influence, is pretty drinkable, while the 5.5-percent ABV **Redhead** is a solidly likeable amber. Though still heavily malt-bodied, its hops hit nicely for character — I'd head down the pole for one. — ***Matthew Schniper***

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Film

Blood triangle

***Stoker** (R)*

By Jonathan Kiefer

Stoker is not about the author of *Dracula*, but it's easy to think so given a director whose previous film, *Thirst*, centered on a vampire priest. Maybe, to be clearer, the first English-language effort from Korean auteur Chan-wook Park should have been called *The Addams Family Shadow of a Doubt*.

Feel uncomfortable just looking at this photo? Then you're prepped for the tensions that follow on-screen.

A cartoon-gothic Hitchcock homage sounds plenty accessible, right? Superfluous, too, but in his uniquely aestheticized way, Park just about pulls it off.

The Stokers have seen better days. It's only after India's father dies that she discovers he has a brother, who shows up unexpectedly and sort of seduces her, and sort of seduces her mother, too. For India (Mia Wasikowska), already just on the verge of becoming a woman, or maybe a monster, this is a challenging time.

Her dad (Dermot Mulroney) used to take her hunting, and to tell her important things like, "Sometimes you need to do something bad to stop yourself from doing something worse." But he never told her other important things, like about that brother.

Uncle Charlie (Matthew Goode) is, to be sure, a rather dashing fellow, if you can get past the penetrating stare and the disappearances and the tendency to hang around the high school parking lot. India's mother (Nicole Kidman) generally can get past these things, at least at first, but only because she herself is already sort of gone anyway.

And while India may get mopey sometimes, she seems increasingly present. True, somewhere along the line she acquired an aversion to being touched, which is fair enough, as her classmates all seem like aggro date rapists. But Uncle Charlie can help with that.

His arrival, however ominous, does at least prompt her to move beyond passively collecting all the pairs of saddle shoes she's ever grown out of. It's thanks to his influence that soon we behold the suggestive image of her sharpening a freshly bloodied pencil, among other also suggestive images.

Really, because of Uncle Charlie, India blooms. How so is not exactly cause for Stoker family celebration, but maybe it is as things need to be.

These characters don't much seem like human beings, partly because they're meant to register as the beastly ciphers of some cryptic fable about sex and death, but mostly because the writing, by Wentworth Miller, seems too stiff. Thankfully the actors all are self-possessed and supremely committed. They also keep the film from becoming lurid, even when it probably should. All told, the best thing about the unnatural triangle that forms between India and her mom and her uncle is the shrewd sharpness of its edges.

What a stylish little movie *Stoker* is, full of technical precision and quiet panache. Through expressive camerawork and adroit editing, its moody aura is meticulously maintained. Scenes just bleed right into each other, sometimes literally.

Like Hitchcock, Park does give an impression of extensive storyboarding; rather than actually creeping us out, he assembles an exquisite array of creepiness signifiers. But maybe nowadays that's all a gothically inclined thriller really can do. It's just hard to know how much it means to him, and how much of that meaning may have been lost in translation from a non-native filmmaking language.

Did he find himself distracted by wondering if, come to think of it, maybe a Bram Stoker biopic would have been good too?

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Film

A better way to die hard

***Olympus Has Fallen** (R)*

By Scott Renshaw

Why couldn't *this* have been the latest *Die Hard* movie?

Superficially, there's a different kind of narrative at work in this action thriller. Our hero, Mike Banning (Gerard Butler), is a Secret Service agent, and, of course, totally badass ex-Special Forces, shipped from presidential protection detail to a desk job after tragically failing to save the life of the First Lady. Eighteen months later, as tensions escalate in the DMZ, some nasty North Koreans, led by the ruthless Kang (Rick Yune), storm 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, taking the president (Aaron Eckhart) and several top U.S. government officials hostage.

Gerard Butler is boring, not badass, but the film works in spite of his performance.

Can Banning save the day when he becomes the lone surviving fly-in-the-ointment left inside the White House, as the country faces potentially apocalyptic consequences?

There are more disaster-movie elements at play, and a personal quest for redemption that was never really part of the John McClane dynamic. Yet fundamentally, *Olympus* grasps all of the major components that make a *Die Hard*-type thriller appealing.

Contained space? You got it. Hopelessly outmanned protagonist, slowly evening the odds through a combination of brute force and good old-fashioned American ingenuity? Sure. A suitably nasty villain with a clearly defined objective? Decidedly well-played on that count.

But perhaps under-appreciated in ticking off the "How to Make a *Die Hard*" list is being smart about how and where to build your big action set pieces. The initial attack on the White House makes for a compelling combination of chaos and clear indication of the tactical planning involved; in order to grasp what the good guy is up against, the audience needs a keen understanding for how competent the bad guys are.

Director Antoine Fuqua (*Training Day*) gives the violence a sense of real-world brutality, with civilians caught in the crossfire, and the combat feeling earthy rather than aestheticized. And there's a solid level of suspense beyond the action at key moments, particularly when Banning attempts to smuggle the president's young son (Finley Jacobsen) to safety. This is how action movies become more than just cascades of bullets and showy explosions: pacing, editing and a sense of something being at stake.

Of course, this one does have Butler as its central figure, which is ... a problem. I'm on record as not remotely getting why Butler continues to happen, whether as a romantic lead or an action hero. The physicality he brings to *Olympus* certainly makes him a threat to the villains, but it also makes him seem like less of an everyday guy working his way through an extraordinary situation — the key factor in Bruce Willis' performance as McClane that bumped the original *Die Hard* into the category of modern classic. More to the point, Butler continues to be about as uninteresting a leading man as we have in mainstream cinema.

And yet, still, *Olympus* clicks on most of the levels where you need genre movie-making to click. It's propulsively forward-moving in a way that minimizes your innate "wait, that's stupid" reflex; it serves up a few memorable one-liners; it even cares about us enough for the final showdown to include a big red digital countdown-to-armageddon clock. This should have been the kind of movie we get for John McClane and any decent action hero. The fact that we so rarely do is Hollywood's fly in our ointment.

— scene@csindy.com

RatingsWrapUp

	Indy	Hollywood Reporter	Rotten Tomatoes	Variety
Amour (PG-13)	Brilliant	Brilliant	Brilliant	Brilliant
The Incredible Burt Wonderstone (PG-13)	Wait for DVD	Wait for DVD	Wait for DVD	Enjoy
Olympus Has Fallen (R)	Enjoy	NOT REVIEWED	NOT REVIEWED	NOT REVIEWED
Oz the Great and Powerful (PG)	Wait for DVD	Lame	Enjoy	Wait for DVD
Stoker (R)	Wait for DVD	Enjoy	Enjoy	Brilliant

KEY: Brilliant · Enjoy · Wait for DVD · Lame

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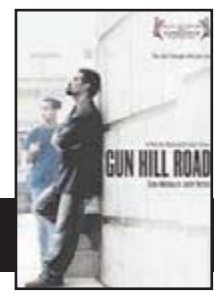
CineFiles



Gun Hill Road (R)

Virgil Films

Esai Morales never gets enough credit for what he does. Sometimes it seems he doesn't get any credit. Look at his roles in films like *La Bamba* and *Mi Familia*; he always brings a stirring, emotional range to his work and deserves recognition. In his latest, *Gun Hill Road*, he delivers an amazing performance as Enrique, an ex-con who was raped in prison. Upon his release, he returns home to his family only to find his son Michael (an amazing Harmony Santana) describing himself as a transsexual and trying to come to terms with it, all while navigating through the closed-minded high school world. That forces Enrique to confront his own hatred and prejudices against what he thinks Michael should be. *Gun Hill Road* is an honest, heart-wrenching look at acceptance, machismo and family bonds that should've gained Morales an Oscar nod. ***— Louis Fowler***

Bachelorette (R)

Starz/Anchor Bay

"Reviving a fucked-up bitch wasn't exactly on the itinerary," spits slightly less-fucked-up Regan (a commanding Kirsten Dunst) at an unlucky member of a wedding party who dared question the maid of honor's time-management skills. Regan may be running on cocaine, alcohol and sheer panic, but the flatlining bridesmaid added Xanax to the mix, so, plans evolve. Writer-director Leslye Headland's hedonistic joyride feels like a dark response to the *Bridesmaids* phenomenon, but in reality, the two films premiered within months of each other. The dazzling cast, all going full-tilt, is captivating, though their characters are rarely likable. Besides its hard-as-nails R rating, the admirable character explorations dig a bit deeply under the surface for a Friday night. But for adventurous palates, it's one of the more daring raunchfests in recent memory. ***— Justin Strout***

Lay the Favorite (R)

Anchor Bay

Stephen Frears has directed some classics, including *The Grifters* and *High Fidelity*. His latest, *Lay the Favorite*, will not go into that category. It's watchable, but also kind of a waste of time. Most of the problem lies with lead Rebecca Hall, a British actress forced to play American trailer-trash. She does it in such an overblown way that they should have cast *The Simpsons'* Cletus the Slack-jawed Yokel. Every time she's on screen, you marvel at just how abysmal her performance is, especially when she's forced to share said screen with such veterans as Bruce Willis (playing it subdued) and Catherine Zeta-Jones (playing it broad, but amusingly). Hall's character is a Florida stripper who moves to Vegas and gets involved in sports betting and high-stakes gambling, only to learn something about herself in the end. At least someone does. ***— Louis Fowler***

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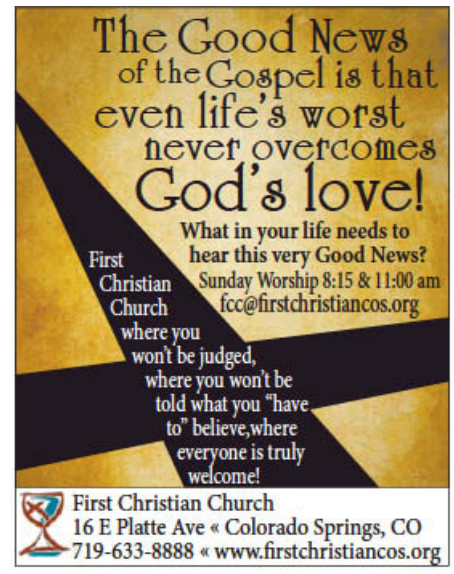
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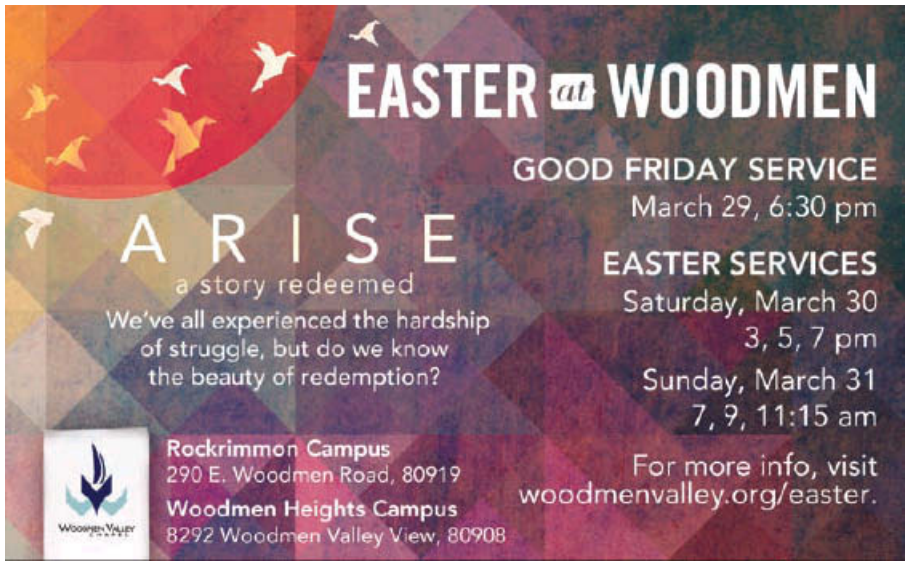
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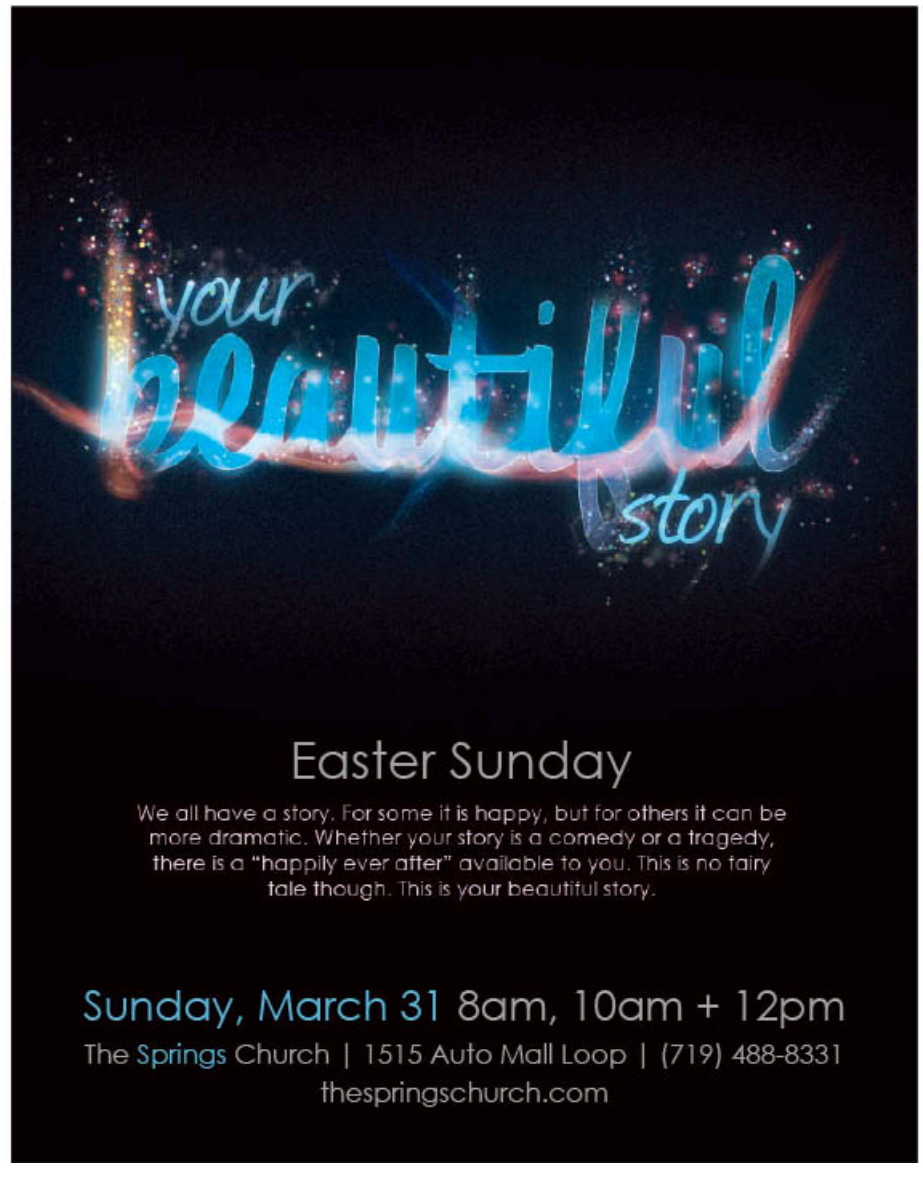
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AudioFile

Straight outta Capetown

Soul-searching with ex-pat rock band Civil Twilight

By Brian Palmer

CAPSULE

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Steve McKellar, frontman for the former South African rock group Civil Twilight, is a big proponent of musical evolution.

"We're a vastly different group now than we were when we started out, and thank goodness," McKellar says of his now Nashville-based band. "I think if we were the same then we'd be in trouble. Even with what music we like to listen to, we're different now from how we were when we made the first record."

'With America, I thought it was one thing and it turned out to be something else.'

After releasing its self-titled debut album in 2009, Civil Twilight has spent the last few years touring with the likes of Mutemath, the Smashing Pumpkins, Florence + the Machine, Anberlin and Silversun Pickups. Add to that performances at the Austin City Limits, Bonnaroo and Voodoo Music festivals, and that growth isn't particularly surprising. Civil Twilight also added a keyboardist, Kevin Dailey last year, which brought a fresh dynamic to the group's shows and songwriting process.

One thing that has not changed, however, is McKellar's penchant for lyrical soul-searching.

"If our songs aren't challenging me then they're not very inspiring," McKellar says. "The last thing I want to do is sound preachy — or like I know what I'm talking about — but these songs and the questions they pose are all things I've been asking myself. I've found that a lot of the songs I've written have a lot of question marks."

McKellar knows a thing or two about the importance of not assuming you know it all. He, his brother Andrew (guitars) and Richard Wouters (drums) all originally hail from Cape Town, South Africa (they added Dailey to the band after moving to Nashville), and for a long time McKellar had this idea of what America was like simply because his mother was born here. But making the jump to the States forced him to change his perspective.

"With America, I thought it was one thing and it turned out to be something else, and that reality was quite a lot to swallow," says McKellar. "It's not that I got disappointed or anything, it's just not what I thought it was going to be. But then before you know it, you're a part of that culture. You're no longer just an observer or a foreigner; you're now actually becoming part of that place."

That realization, along with all the touring, helped evolve Civil Twilight's approach to its 2012 sophomore album, *Holy Weather*. Incorporating a dreamy, Brit-rock aesthetic that calls to mind the likes of Oasis, Coldplay, Muse and early U2, the new songs are loaded with thought-provoking material. "Move/Stay" and "Every Walk That I've Ever Taken Has Been in Your Direction" convey the idea that there's some purpose behind everything we do, as do lyrics like, "Everything's got a reason / Everyone's got a place."

While the band is ultimately about getting up onstage and having a good time, McKellar figures the artistic transformation has also manifested itself on a personal level.

"When you have a passion, or a talent you discover, it's there for a lot of reasons, and one of them is to learn from it, to learn about life and how to love people through it," he says. "It's a tool for understanding God and yourself; it's there for way bigger reasons than just making beautiful sounds. It's something that I need to do. It keeps me sane, you know?"

— scene@csindy.com

SoundAdvice

Devendra Banhart
Mala
Nonesuch

File next to: Elliott Smith, Yo La Tengo

If there's anyone out there yet to receive the memo, Devendra Banhart stopped being a drippy hippie at least five years ago, when his band started focusing more on multilingual Latin American sensibilities. Albums like *Cripple Crow* kept Banhart from being dubbed the next Donovan, though occasionally it seemed like he was trying too hard, with too much instrumentation, to abandon his early flower-power days. The nicest aspect of *Mala*, then, is that Banhart has learned to be an easybeat slacker clearly enjoying a gentle joke, yet with more wisdom than on those earliest albums. Most of *Mala*'s songs are in English, with the exception of "Mi Negrita" and some random German in "Your Fine Petting Duck." The open, expansive songs here may not be Banhart's most complex or majestic, but they'll make for fine summertime listening. Banhart also gets 10 bonus points for naming a song after Hildegard von Bingen. ***— Loring Wirbel***

The Replacements
Songs for Slim
New West Records

File next to: Alex Chilton, Faces

After latter-day Replacements guitarist Slim Dunlap's massive stroke in 2012, his former bandmates came to his aid, announcing the *Songs for Slim* EP. Initially an auctioned vinyl release to help cover Dunlap's medical bills, it is now available for download. While not a full-fledged reunion, all three surviving 'Mats are present, recording two Dunlap songs and three additional covers. Drummer Chris Mars' excellent, one-man-band rendition of Dunlap's "Radio Hook Word Hit" is a heavily distorted yet catchy slice of power-pop, while Paul Westerberg and Tommy Stinson (joined by guitarist Kevin Bowe and drummer Peter Anderson) tear through the extra covers, most notably Gordon Lightfoot's "I'm Not Sayin'." While it might not necessarily rival anything on *Let it Be*, *Songs for Slim* exudes a rollicking energy that does the legend of the Replacements justice while supporting an excellent cause. ***— Collin Estes***

They Might Be Giants
Nanobots
Idlewild

File next to: Phil Ochs, Tom Lehrer, Mountain Goats

Any band whose trajectory began with a Dial-a-Song service that changed weekly was simply asking for burnout, and They Might Be Giants have been at it for 30 years. Somewhere in the last decade their primary focus changed to children's albums, and releases for adults like *Join Us* sounded tedious and flat. But *Nanobots*' 25 tracks are as throat-grabbing as anything since TMBG's 1990 high-water mark, *Flood*. The astonishing lyrics bounce wildly from drones and death squads ("Black Ops") to problems with parents ("Call You Mom"), while careening riffs are met with the random use of sax, banjo and other unexpected instrumentation. The dual vocals of John Linnell and John Flansburgh claim the Faustian achievement of reverting to post-adolescent freshness. Some bands get a second wind, They Might Be Giants just gave us a neighborhood hurricane. ***— Loring Wirbel***

Fantastic voyage

Great Big Sea celebrates 40 pretty good songs

By Tom Lanham

Alan Doyle yawns, long and deep, then profusely apologizes for it. The Great Big Sea frontman has just returned to his native Newfoundland from New York, where he was flown, spur-of-the-moment, to shoot a final scene in Grand Central Station for the upcoming big-screen version of *Winter's Tale*. Based on the beloved Mark Helprin tome, the film also stars box-office heavyweights Will Smith and Colin Farrell, as well as longtime chum Russell Crowe, with whom Doyle first starred in Ridley Scott's *Robin Hood* as the minstrel Allan A'Dayle.

"It was more random than you might imagine," says the dry-witted 43-year-old. "We just very loosely categorized stuff, here, there and everywhere. But one of the coolest things about compiling all this stuff was, it was a brief moment of patting ourselves on the back. Like 'That's a good song. And *that's* a pretty good song. Hey — we've got 40 pretty good songs!' So I'm very thrilled that we could fill up that much of a box set — all killer, no filler, man!"

It's difficult to parse the unique, kinetic sound of Doyle and crew. Suffice to say that it owes a lot to the rugged Celt-settled coast of Newfoundland, where jigs and reels were part and parcel of winter get-togethers held in the warmest room of the house — the kitchen. As the communities revolved around fishing, sea chanteys played a big local role, as well. Which explains why GBS had its humble beginning in hard-scrabble St. John's sailors pubs.

Big Sea frontman and movie-star minstrel Alan Doyle: 'I was like "Holy shit! They're already looking at us."'

"Yeah, we were certainly born out of a rummy, sailor-town pub culture, no question," says Doyle. "And I'm so grateful for it. If your apprenticeship is in pubs like that, where there's a lot to compete with — fellas talking to fellas, fellas talking to girls, darts going on and pool tables? If you can win *their* attention? And keep it?" He pauses, chuckling. "I remember when we got to play our first theater, and all the seats were facing us. I was like 'Holy shit! This is easy! They're already looking at us — now we actually have to play and sing well!'"

Great Big Sea concerts are exuberant singalong celebrations that tend to draw a cult audience of primarily Canadian expats and die-hard Yankee fans. "It's an interesting thing to have been playing for so long that people have the ideal concert in their mind before they get there," Doyle says. 'And it's just fun sometimes to go out there and fulfill it!"

Actually, Doyle's whole life has been a blur of late. He has a recurring role in the Canadian TV series *Republic of Doyle*. He's just issued his first solo album, *Boy on Bridge*, named for the very first acting credit he got as a kid growing up in Petty Harbour, where a film crew showed up to produce a killer whale flick. And yes, he and his old songwriting chum Crowe collaborate on a few cuts — "Perfect Excuse," "Light the Way," and the rollicking "I've Seen a Little" — which chime like more Bon Jovi-ish takes on gritty GBS folk-rock.

Currently, Doyle is on the road celebrating Great Big Sea's 20th anniversary, backing a 40-cut best-of anthology, *XX*, that's evenly divided into two discs: "Folk" and "Pop."

CAPSULE

Great Big Sea

Friday and Saturday, March 22 and 23, 8 p.m.

Boulder Theater, 2032 14th St., Boulder

Tickets: $29-$35, all ages; bouldertheater.com, 303/786-7030.

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REVERB

BY BILL FORMAN

It's finally official: The complete **Meadowgrass Music Festival** lineup is being unveiled today, and an impressive one it is.

While a few of the acts have already been announced in previous *Reverb* columns, new additions to the three-day Memorial Day weekend event include Saturday night headliner Dawes, the L.A. band whose 2009 debut album *North Hills* was hailed for its "authentically vintage" sound by *Rolling Stone*, who would obviously know. Frontman Taylor Goldsmith can, in fact, sound remarkably like Jackson Browne, the '70s singer-songwriter his band subsequently backed at NYC's Occupy encampment.

Blitzen Trapper sets its sights on Meadowgrass 2013.

Dawes has also toured with Friday night's headliner **Blitzen Trapper**, arguably the most-recognizable name on this year's roster. The Sub Pop band is much loved by the New Depression crowd, even though its sound is sufficiently all over the place to transcend the Americana label.

Sunday's headliner also has "event status" written all over it, as **Great American Taxi** joins forces with **Todd Snider**, who produced the band's 2011 *Paradise Lost* album. Led by **Leftover Salmon** guitarist and singer **Vince Herman**, Great American Taxi is hugely popular on the jam-band circuit, while Snider's 2012 *Agnostic Hymns & Stoner Fables* album cracked *Rolling Stone*'s year-end Top 50. With songs like "Ponce of the Flaming Peace Queer" and "Talkin' Seattle Grunge Rock Blues," Snider is a genuinely hilarious performer whose songs and stories should connect with fans of **Hayes Carll, Bill Hicks, Arlo Guthrie** and Snider's own mentor, **John Prine** (who, by the way, will be coming to the **Pikes Peak Center** on May 4).

And then there's **Cahalen Morrison**'s Saturday afternoon homecoming show. Well-regarded in the local music scene during his years studying jazz at UCCS, Morrison recorded a live album at **Western Jubilee** before taking off for Seattle. Once there, he hooked up with **Eli West** to create a sepia-tinged country and bluegrass sound that country hitmaker **Tim O'Brien** has called "music the world needs."

'I am definitely not used to singing softly.'

Also not to be missed is two-time Juno-winning banjoist **Jayme Stone**'s cross-culturally inclined **Room of Wonders**. The group's lineup includes **Ron Miles**, who's been critically acclaimed as one of today's finest jazz trumpeters.

Meadowgrass acts mentioned in previous columns include former **Throwing Muses** frontwoman **Kristin Hersh** as well as the stunningly original **Anais Mitchell**.

In addition to some two dozen main-stage performers, the weekend music-and-camping event, which is now in its fifth year at **La Foret Conference & Retreat Center**, will include late-night performances in the **Ponderosa Lodge** by the **23 Band** on Friday, **Mike Clark & The Sugar Sounds** on Saturday, and the **Joe Johnson Band** on Sunday.

While set times are still a bit fluid, here's the full lineup in current chronological order for your Memorial Day weekend planning.

• **Friday:** Burn the Maps, Moonhoney, Honey Don't, Sera Cahoone, the David Mayfield Parade, Blitzen Trapper.

• **Saturday:** The Changing Colors, Chauncy Crandall & the Rocket Flies, Cahalen Morrison & Eli West, Mollie O'Brien & Rich Moore, Kristin Hersh, Hot Club of Cowtown, Dawes.

• **Sunday:** The Hearafter, Adams & Stillwagen Gospel Hour, Charlie Milo Trio, Patrick Dethlefs, Jayme Stone's Room of Wonders, Anais Mitchell & Jefferson Hamer, Joe Pug, Todd Snider & Great American Taxi.

And finally, a quick follow-up on two previously mentioned shows: On Saturday, I watched the **English Beat** (interviewed in last week's issue) work some 350-plus fans into a ska-pop frenzy at **Rawkus**. Hits like "Mirror in the Bathroom," "I Confess" and "Save It for Later" were reminders of how much more song-driven the original 2-Tone bands were, compared to the most recent wave of revivalists.

Also great to see Tulsa punk-rockabilly refugees **Brian Parton** and **Dave Cantrell** teaming up for an acoustic set last Wednesday at **Meadow Muffins**. Of course it took all of 1.5 songs before the mic stand hit the floor, and not much longer for Dave to break out the megaphone for "Nightstick Justice," a mid-'80s hardcore anthem originally recorded by Tulsa band **N.O.T.A.**

The set, which included stripped-down versions of "Whiskey Makes Me Evil" and other songs from Cantrell's old band **Cobra Kai**, was the second time the former **Rocket Room** owner has ever performed "unplugged."

"It was weird to do an acoustic show," he told me after the gig, where he and Parton were also joined by former **Fremont Street Preachers** drummer (and current **Drum Shack** proprietor) **Jerry Minson**. "I was glad Jerry sat in on drums, because I am definitely not used to singing softly."

Last I heard, the trio was talking about making this more than a one-time thing, which would be pretty great. Meanwhile, Brian's **Westside Wednesday** series at **Meadow Muffins** continues on. Everyone's favorite accordion terrorist, **Chris Mandile**, will be this week's special guest, with **West Side Rhythm Kings' Paul Figueroa** sitting in on March 27.

Send news, photos and music to reverb@csindy.com; follow our updates at tinyurl.com/indyreverb.

PlayingAround

LIVE MUSIC: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, THROUGH TUESDAY, MARCH 26

Wednesday 03/20

Black Sheep, *Tech N9ne, Brotha Lynch Hung, Krizz Kaliko (hip-hop)*, 7 p.m., $28-$30.

Club Q, *Open Mic Night (open mic)*, 10 p.m.

Frankie's, *Open Mic (open mic)*, 8:30 p.m.

Front Range Barbeque, *Old You (jazz)*, 8 p.m.

Fujiyama, *Trusedell Trio feat. Julie Bradley (jazz)*, 6:30 p.m.

Margarita at PineCreek, *Crystal and the Curious (jazz)*, 7 p.m.

Meadow Muffins, *Brian Parton (Americana)*, 7 p.m.

MoodSwings, *Open Mic Night (open mic)*, 8 p.m., $5, free for jammers.

Park East, *The Martini Shot Unplugged (acoustic)*, 7 p.m.

Rawkus, *Coult-45 (rock/pop)*, 8 p.m.

Stargazers, *Pikes Peak Blues Community's Blues Jam (blues)*, 7 p.m., $5 donation.

Studio 64 & Club 710, *Justin James Bridges (acoustic)*, 8 p.m.

Zodiac, *Andy D, Audible (rock/pop)*, 9 p.m., $3.

Thursday 03/21

Adam's, *Bobby Jackson (acoustic)*, 6:30 p.m.

Ancient Mariner, *Stolen Idol Productions presents Open Mic (open mic)*, 8 p.m.

Benny's, *Open Mic with the Jerry Roskin Band (open mic)*, 9 p.m.

Black Sheep, *Peelander-Z (rock/pop)*, 8 p.m., $10-$12.

Blue Moose Tavern, *Open Mic with Chauncy Crandal (open mic)*, 8 p.m.

Jack Quinn's, *Brian Clancy (world)*, 7:30 p.m.

VENUE DIRECTORY

Adam's Mountain Café, 934 Manitou Ave., #102, Manitou Springs, 685-1430

Ancient Mariner, 962 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-5503

Back East Bar & Grill, 9475 Briar Village Point, 264-6161

Benny's Restaurant & Lounge, 517 W. Colorado Ave., 634-9309

Black Forest Community Center, 12530 Black Forest Road, 528-6119

Black Sheep, 2106 E. Platte Ave., 227-7625

The Blue Moose Tavern, 10530 Ute Pass Ave., Green Mountain Falls, 418-3384

Broadmoor Academy of Music, 1223 Lake Plaza Drive, Suite C, 576-3979

Carey-On Saloon, 6829 Space Village Ave., 591-0300

Cleats Sports Bar & Grill, 6624 Delmonico Drive, 548-8267

Club Q, 3430 N. Academy Blvd., 570-1429

The Coffee Exchange, 526 S. Tejon St., 635-0277

Cosmopolitan Club, 311 Bay State Ave., Pueblo, 719/564-9738

Country Bar, 606 S. Santa Fe Ave., Fountain, 382-5361

Crystola Roadhouse, 20918 U.S. Hwy. 24, Woodland Park, 687-7879

Cucuru Gallery Café, 2332 W. Colorado Ave., 520-9900

Frankie's Bar & Grill, 945 N. Powers Blvd., 574-4881

Front Range Barbeque, 2330 W. Colorado Ave., 632-2596

Fujiyama, 22 S. Tejon St., Suite A, 630-1167

Jack Quinn Irish Alehouse & Pub, 21 S. Tejon St., 385-0766

Kasey's Bar & Grill, 1919 E. Boulder St., 635-8128

Keg Lounge, 730 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-9531

Legends, 1023 S. Pueblo

Got a live music event readers should know about? Send us the band/musician, where they're playing and when (day, date and time), how much it will cost and a contact phone number — by Wednesday

Margarita at PineCreek, *Jazz Quartet (jazz),* 6:30 p.m.
Motif, *Tricia Parish (acoustic),* 7:15 p.m.
Park East, *Sarah Wood & Theo DeCenzo (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
Rico's, *Susan Rissman and Tribe (jazz),* 7 p.m.
Ritz, *DJ Serge (dance),* 9:30 p.m.
Stargazers, *Jam with Jake Loggins (blues),* 7 p.m.

Friday 03/22

Adam's, *Bobby Jackson (acoustic),* 9 a.m.
Ancient Mariner, *Blue Frog (blues),* 9 p.m.
Back East, *Suga' Bear & The Show Time Band (R&B),* 8 p.m.
Benny's, *Westside Rhythm Kings (blues),* 8 p.m.
Black Forest Community Center, *Safe Harbor (folk),* 7 p.m., $4-$7.
Black Sheep, *Altars (metal),* 7:30 p.m., $8-$10.
Broadmoor Academy of Music, *Friday Jazz Jam Session (jazz),* 7 p.m.
Cleats, *Slightly Bent (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
The Coffee Exchange, *The Connor Terrones Jazz Trio (jazz),* 7 p.m.
Crystola Roadhouse, *Jason Miller Band (country),* 8 p.m.
Cucuru, *Tricia Parrish (acoustic),* 8 p.m.
Fujiyama, *Mistura Bela/Barbara Ernst (world),* 6:30 p.m.
Jack Quinn's, *Neon Sound Festival (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Kasey's, *Friday Nights with DJ Panther (R&B),* 9 p.m.
Legends, *Cari Dell Trio (blues),* 9 p.m.
Margarita at PineCreek, *The Mitguards (folk),* 6:30 p.m.
McCabe's Tavern, *Danny & The Fried Shrimp (rock/pop),* 5:30 p.m.
Meadow Muffins, *Rocky Gene Wallace and Brickyard (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Motif, *Rico Southee, Andy Burtschi, Stefan Flores (jazz),* 7:45 p.m.
The Perk Downtown, *BRAS Open Stage (acoustic),* 8 p.m., $4-$7.
Pikes Peak Center, *The Dunwells, Bronze Radio Return (rock/pop),* 8 p.m., $25.
Rawkus, *Lexi Fey, Pwnage Method, Vibe D_Ziners (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
Rico's, *The Flumps (rock/pop),* 7:30 p.m.
Ritz, *Slugworth (rock/pop),* 9:30 p.m.
The Sky Box Lounge, *Jeff "Fitty" Smith (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
Sonterra, *John Stone (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
SouthSide Johnny's, *Hideout Band (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Stargazers, *Firefall (rock/pop),* 8 p.m., $20.
Townhouse, *Hillbilly Luv Gawds (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Triple Nickel, *Reno Divorce, Real Diamonds, Murder Hat (rock/pop),* 9 p.m., $5.
V Bar, *DJ Gravity (dance),* 9 p.m.
Venue 515, *Wayne Hammerstadt (acoustic),* 7:30 p.m., $8.
Wyatt's, *The Flipsides (blues),* 8:30 p.m.

Whitney Lee

Japanese action-comic punks Peelander-Z will hit the Black Sheep March 21.

BigGigs

Tech N9ne, Black Sheep, March 20; Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, March 22 • **Peelander-Z**, Black Sheep, March 21 • **Firefall**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, March 22 • **Imagine Dragons**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, March 23; Red Rocks Amphitheatre, Morrison, May 16 • **Candye Kane**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, March 23 • **Civil Twilight, Atlas Genius**, Pikes Peak Center, March 24 • **In This Moment**, Black Sheep, March 25 • **P.O.D. Unplugged**, Rawkus, March 25 • **The Pinstripes**, Black Sheep, March 27 • **Air Dubai**, Black Sheep, March 28 • **Erykah Badu**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, March 30 • **Exhumed**, Black Sheep, March 30 • **Adrenaline Mob**, Black Sheep, April 1 • **Bob Seger & The Silver Bullet Band, Joe Walsh**, Pepsi Center, Denver, April 2 • **Minus the Bear**, Black Sheep, April 2 • **Alt-J**, Bluebird Theater, Denver, April 3 • **Deer Tick**, Colorado College, April 3 • **The Devil Wears Prada, As I Lay Dying**, Black Sheep, April 3-4 • **The Elders**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, April 6 • **Radical Something**, Black Sheep, April 6 • **Bad Religion**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, April 10 • **The Doobie Brothers**, Pikes Peak Center, April 10 • **Moses Jones**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, April 10 • **The Parlotones**, Black Sheep, April 10 • **Chris Cagle**, Cowboys, April 11 • **Bullet for My Valentine**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, April 12 • **Jimmy Thackery & the Drivers**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, April 12 • **Big Bill Morganfield**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, April 13 • **Peter Yarrow**, Daniels Hall at Swallow Hill, Denver, April 13 • **Colin Hay**, Tri-Lakes Center for the Arts, Palmer Lake, April 20 • **The Motet, Ozomatli**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, April 20 • **Whiskey Fingers**, Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, May 3 • **Chris Duarte Group**, Crystola Roadhouse, Woodland Park, May 4 • **John Prine**, Pikes Peak Center, May 4 • **Paramore**, Fillmore Auditorium, Denver, May 7

Zodiac, *Mark's Midnight Carnival Show, Men of Deep Throat, Pheromone (rock/pop),* 9 p.m., $5.

Saturday 03/23

Ancient Mariner, *Big Sky Shakedown (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Back East, *Urban Dance Theory (dance),* 8 p.m.
Benny's, *Rocky Gene Wallace and Brickyard (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Black Sheep, *The Pines (indie),* 8 p.m., $8-$10.
Blue Moose Tavern, *Latigo (country),* 8 p.m.
Carey-On Saloon, *Four of a Kind (country),* 9 p.m.
Cosmopolitan Club, *Cari Dell Trio (blues),* 8 p.m.
Country Bar, *Exit West (country),* 8 p.m.
Crystola Roadhouse, *Candye Kane (blues),* 8 p.m., $18-$38.
Frankie's, *Suga' Bear & The Show Time Band (R&B),* 8 p.m.
Front Range Barbeque, *J. Miller Band (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
Jack Quinn's, *The Stubby Shillelaghs (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Keg Lounge, *Lipstick Voodoo (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
MoodSwings, *Barrett Cune (acoustic),* 8 p.m.
Motif, *Marc Neihof Trio (jazz),* 7:45 p.m.
Pikes Peak Brewing Co., *Jeremy Facknitz (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
Rico's, *Moonhoney (world),* 7:30 p.m.
Ritz, *Slugworth (rock/pop),* 9:30 p.m.
The Sky Box Lounge, *The Reid Holmes Invitational "Live Music Jam" (open mic),* 8 p.m.
Sonterra, *John Stone (acoustic),* 7 p.m.
SouthSide Johnny's, *Hideout Band (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Stargazers, *The Flying W Wranglers (country),* 8 p.m., $15-$25.
Swirl, *Stefan Doucette (jazz),* 7 p.m.
Townhouse, *Mark's Midnight Carnival Show (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.
Triple Nickel, *Gypsyhawk, Mothership, Still Valley (rock/pop),* 9 p.m., $5.
V Bar, *DJ Gravity (dance),* 9 p.m.
Zodiac, *Ghost Radio, Melting Temple, Sound Studies (rock/pop),* 9 p.m., $5.

Sunday 03/24

Jack Quinn's, *Traditional Irish Session (world),* 3 p.m.
Pikes Peak Center, *Civil Twilight, Atlas Genius, Hydrogen Skyline, Claymore Disco (rock/pop),* 6 p.m., $23.
Smiley's Bakery and Café, *Blue Frog (blues),* 11 a.m.
Stargazers, *John Austin: Faith Can Conquer Anything (acoustic),* 5 p.m., $10.
Zodiac, *Matt Murphy (rock/pop),* 9 p.m.

Monday 03/25

Black Sheep, *In This Moment (metal),* 7 p.m., $20-$22.
Rawkus, *P.O.D. Unplugged (rock/pop),* 8 p.m.
Zodiac, *Open Mic hosted by Andrea Stone (open mic),* 7 p.m.

Tuesday 03/26

Adam's, *Wayne Hammerstadt (acoustic),* 6 p.m.
Benny's, *Sweet T's Rude Blues Jam (blues),* 7 p.m.
Townhouse, *Jam Night, with Tim Costello (acoustic),* 8 p.m.
Zodiac, *Goth Nite with DJ Johnny Coffin (dance),* 9 p.m.

Blvd., Pueblo, 719/561-3175
Margarita at PineCreek, 7350 Pine Creek Road, 598-8667
McCabe's Tavern, 520 S. Tejon St., 633-3300
Meadow Muffins, 2432 W. Colorado Ave., 633-0583
MoodSwings Acoustic Lounge, 696 N. Circle Drive, 201-2592
Motif, 2432 Cucharras St., 635-5635
Park East Restaurant, 720 Goodnight Ave., Pueblo, 719/565-6655
The Perk Downtown, 14 S. Tejon St., 635-1600
Pikes Peak Brewing Co., 1756 Lake Woodmoor Drive, 208-4098
Pikes Peak Center, 190 S. Cascade Ave., 520-7469
Rawkus, 3506 N. Academy Blvd., 596-0000
Rico's Café and Wine Bar, 322½ N. Tejon St., 578-5549
Ritz Grill, 15 S. Tejon St., 635-8484
The Sky Box Lounge, 2102 E. Bijou St., 634-4815
Smiley's Bakery and Café, 323 N. Tejon St., 328-9447
Sonterra Innovative Southwest Grill, 28B S. Tejon St., 471-9222
SouthSide Johnny's, 528 S. Tejon St., 444-8487
Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, 10 S. Parkside Drive, 476-2200
Studio 64 & Club 710, 1677 Jet Wing Drive, 321/626-9469
Swirl Wine Bar, 717 Manitou Ave., #102, Manitou Springs, 685-2294
Townhouse Lounge, 907 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1085
Triple Nickel Tavern, 26 S. Wahsatch Ave., 477-9555
V Bar, 19 E. Kiowa St., 635-9599
Venue 515, 515 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861
Wyatt's Pub & Grill, 806 Village Center Drive, 598-4100
Zodiac, 230 Pueblo Ave., 632-5059

at noon for the following week's paper. If we don't receive confirmation of ongoing events on a monthly basis, they won't run. Send to: livemusic@csindy.com.

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Listings

Indicates our recommendations for this week.

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN THE PIKES PEAK REGION

PICK **Sangre de Cristo Arts Center,** 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., Pueblo, 719/295-7200, sdc-arts.org. *Gene Diodato*, held in Sangre's Foyer galleries, a series of plein air paintings. Through April 20. *Klaus Anselm*, a series of works by this Pueblo artist who hails from Germany and worked as a doctor before turning to weaving. Through April 20. *Women Who Run with the Wood*, a exhibition of wood-fired ceramics created by Vicky Hansen, Tracy Hartman-Jensen, and Deborah Hager. Through March 30. *Representing the West Exhibition and Sale*, a national juried exhibition and sale of traditional Western art (pictured). Through April 6.

ArtEvents

Art Emersion Soirée, an evening show and sale of fine art from Jill Lawson, jewelry by Laura Webber and snacks and spirits from Soirée. Sat., March 23, 5 p.m. Soirée, 1003 S. Tejon St., 633-8313, tinyurl.com/c6a2q3c.

The Bacon Emporium, local artist Alaura Zortman will paint along to live music. The painting will then be raffled off at the end of the show. Fri., March 22, 8 p.m. $5. MoodSwings Acoustic Lounge, 696 N. Circle Drive, 201-2592, moodswingscos.com.

ChitChat: Salem Witch Trials and Bicycles for All, a chat mash-up featuring multiple speakers and hands-on learning. Tickets required. Wed., March 20, 6:30 p.m. $5-$10. GOCA 121, 121 S. Tejon St., #100, 255-3504, galleryuccs.org.

Clay Art Classes, a variety of classes on topics like paper-clay, raku, handbuilding and wheel throwing. Through May 1. Cup and Bowl Gallery, 116 Midway Ave., Pueblo, 719/404-3469, cupandbowl.org.

Fare Bella classes, offering courses on topics such as: "Florals Up Close," "Celebration of Solitude," "Watercolor Batik," "Finding Your Visual Voice," and more. Fare Bella Studio and Gallery, 16 Ruxton Ave., Manitou Springs, 720/226-4315.

PICK **Fifth Annual Beers and Boards,** a skateboard-art show, with music from DJ Wesley Wayne. Fri., March 22. Trinity Brewing Company, 1466 Garden of the Gods Road, 634-0029, trinitybrew.com.

Life Drawing Sessions, with a live model. RSVP to Tina at 685-1282. Thursdays, 6-8 p.m. $5. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org.

Modbo Art Classes, offering an intro to drawing class and intro to oil painting on Monday nights beginning April 1, and intermediate and advanced oil painting classes on Tuesday nights beginning April 2. Taught by Modbo co-owner and curator Brett Andrus. Call 633-4240 or e-mail themodbo@gmail.com to register. $140-$145, plus a $10 model fee. Modbo, 17C E. Bijou St., 633-4240, themodbo.wordpress.com.

Wildflower Jewelry Trunk Show, a chance to meet Marissa Madge, the artist behind Wildflower Jewelry. Thurs., March 21, 6-10 p.m. Swirl Wine Bar, 717 Manitou Ave., #102, Manitou Springs, 685-2294, swirlismybar.com.

ArtExhibits

Arati Artists Gallery, 2425 W. Colorado Ave., 636-1901, aratiartists.com. *Time Marches On*, an exhibition featuring work from Marian Busey and Don Orr. Through March.

Blue Spruce Gallery, 205 W. Main St., Florence, 719/784-1339. *12th Annual Local Photography Show*, an exhibition of over 20 local and regional photographers, guest-juried this year by Bill LaMorris of Pueblo's Steel City Art Works. March 21 to April 21. Opening reception Fri., Mar. 22, 5-7 p.m.

The Bridge Gallery, 218 W. Colorado Ave., thebridgeartgallery.com. *Spring Forward*, an exhibition of interpretations on the theme in various media. Through March 30.

CC's Coburn Gallery, Worner Campus Center, 902 N. Cascade Ave., 389-6606, theideaspace.com. *Any thing that Is strang*, a hands-on exhibition featuring broadsides, books, posters and more. March 25 to April 16.

Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St., 634-5581, csfineartscenter.org. *Families*, a multidisciplinary project featuring two exhibits, *A Family Affair: Selections from the Progressive Art Collection*, a multimedia show featuring numerous angles on the idea of family from contemporary and emerging artists and *Mother: Photography by Carol S. Dass*, a solo show by this local photographer seeing her mother through new eyes. Through May 19.

CSU-Pueblo's Fine Art Gallery, 2200 Bonforte Blvd., Pueblo, 719/549-2404, chass.colostate-pueblo.edu/Art/Galleries/Pages/Galleries.aspx. *Beasts, Trolls, and the Magical Body*, an exhibition from four artists focusing on the theme of the humanized fairy tale. Through April 5.

Gallery 113, 113 N. Tejon St., gallery-113.com. *Susie Jernigan*, an exhibition of works by this local painter as well as wall art, jewelry, pottery, cards and wood carving from the Gallery 113 co-op artists. Through April 10.

GOCA 1420 at UCCS, 1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., 255-3567, galleryuccs.org. *styrobot: nothing comes from nothing*, a solo show by Michael Salter for which he has built a giant meditating robot out of packing material. Through March 22.

Hillside Community Center, 925 S. Institute St., 492-2524, springsgov.com. *Battle Scars*, an exhibit from Isaac Torres, who says, "Just as my physical battle scars, my emotional scars will always remain — but that is not the end for me." Through March 30.

I.D.E.A. Space at Colorado College, Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 N. Cascade Ave., 389-6066, theideaspace.com. *Voices from Japan: Perspectives on Disaster and Hope*, a variety of events and exhibitions at locations across the college curated by CC professor Joan Ericson, who was in Japan when the earthquake hit in 2011. In addition, poetry and artwork responding to the Waldo Canyon Fire will also be displayed. March 25 to April 6. Opening reception, Mon., March 25, 6 p.m. Free.

J's Gameroom & Café, 3047 Jet Wing Drive, 392-2714, jsgameroom.com. *Bold and Captivating*,

an exhibition from the Colorado Springs Creative Photography Group. March 23 to April 30.

Marika's Coffeehouse, 739 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-4438, marikascoffeehouse.com. *Hyperspective*, an exhibition of paintings "alive with intricacies, imagination and inspiration" from Danny Gillies.

Auditions&Entries

Art Aloud seeks works that visually express the written word, e.g. poetry, song lyrics or quotations, for exhibition as part of Art Aloud 2013, a juried show celebrating National Poetry Month. Intake: March 23, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Academy Frame Company, 7620 N. Academy Blvd., 265-6694, academyframeco.wordpress.com.

Business of Art Center seeks entries for its juried photography exhibition *Colorado in Focus*. Works must be delivered ready to hang. Deadline for entries is April 14; $10 for first piece, $5 for each additional. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org.

Colorado Association for Recycling seeks entries for its seventh annual Recycling Poster Contest, open to students grades K-12. Prizes include gift cards and workshops from Project Learning Tree. Visit website for more info and entry guidelines. Deadline: April 26. 583-4309, aldred@co.pueblo.co.us, cafr.org/events/posterContest.php.

Cottonwood Center for the Arts seeks entries for its upcoming shows. *Wily and Wonderful Things* — works celebrating the aesthetics of outsider art and steampunk will be considered, including painting, sculpture and worn art; intake, May 23-24. *Standing on the Shoulders of Cowboys* — works reflecting the themes of the American Frontier or the modern Southwest will be considered, including painting, sculpture and worn art; intake, July 18-19. Cottonwood Center for the Arts, 427 E. Colorado Ave., 520-1899, cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com.

Marmalade at Smokebrush seeks entries in various media for its annual *Spring Awakening* juried show. E-mail entries or call to schedule a time to view. Deadline for entries is March 22. Marmalade at Smokebrush, 219 W. Colorado Ave., #210, 444-1012, smokebrush@gmail.com, smokebrush.org.

Mountain Arts Festival seeks arts and crafts entries for its 28th fest. Deadline for entries is May 1. Ute Pass Cultural Center, 210 E. Midland Ave., Woodland Park, 686-7469, themountainartists.com.

Pikes Peak Library District seeks photos of your favorite "third place" — a space away from home or work you feel comfortable and engaged in. Through March 31. ppld.org/21centurylibrary.

Pikes Peak Metropolitan Community Church seeks a drummer to perform in its upcoming musical, *In Remembrance*. Performances in early April. Call for details. Through March 31. Pikes Peak Metropolitan Community Church, 1102 S. 21st St., 578-5626.

Visions in Verse: Call For Poets seeks poets to participate in an interactive night of poetry, art, and music. Poets wishing to be considered for the April 21 performance should e-mail a performance résumé and selected poems to the listed address by March 21. Cottonwood Center for the Arts, 427 E. Colorado Ave., 520-1899, media@cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com.

Westside Community Center seeks submissions for the annual show *Finding Our Voices*. Deadline for poetry is March 24; deadline for visual art is April 10. Westside Community Center, 1628 W. Bijou St., 460-7836, findingourvoicescs.org.

Comedy&Improv

Don Barnhart, March 21-31. $2-$10, two-item minimum. Loonee's Comedy Corner, 1305 N. Academy Blvd., 591-0707, loonees.com.

Kathleen Madigan, Sat., March 23, 8 p.m. $25-$30. Pikes Peak Center, 190 S. Cascade Ave., 520-7469, pikespeakcenter.com.

Stand Up or Shut Up, an evening of open-mic comedy. No cover; one free beer for performers; ages 21+. Mon., March 25, 8:30 p.m. Thunder & Buttons II, 2415 W. Colorado Ave., 447-9888, thunderandbuttons.com.

Concerts

Bach Celebration Concert, a performance featuring oboe, violin, solo organ work and chorales. Sun., March 24, 3 p.m. First Christian Church, 16 E. Platte Ave., 633-8888, firstchristiancos.org.

Chamber Recital Concert Series, the last concert in this series presented by the U.S. Air Force Academy Band, featuring Master Sgt. Steven Brannen and guests. Tues., March 26, 7:30 p.m. CC's Packard Hall, 5 W. Cache la Poudre St., 556-9954, coloradocollege.edu. A special Latin Jazz edition of the series will be performed Monday, March 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center as well.

PICK **G44 Gallery,** 1785 S. Eighth St., Suite A, 720/951-0573, g44gallery.com. *You Already Know How This Will End*, an exhibition of the "minimalist and hauntingly beautiful" work of Michael Dowling. Through May 3.

Friends House Concerts: Seth Glier, Sun., March 24, 7 p.m. ($20); Antje Duvekot, Sat., April 20, 7:30 p.m. ($25); Peter Mulvey, Sun., June 16, 7 p.m. ($25). Payment should be checks made out to Friends House Concerts. house-concerts.org.

Hausmusik à la Carte, a performance featuring two string duos and select quartet movements from City Strings. Sat., March 23, 7 p.m. $10-$20. St. George's Anglican Church, 217 E. Pikes Peak Ave., 238-4031, coloradohausmusik.com/city-strings.html.

PPBC Blues Jam, an all-welcome jam session with backup line provided; bring your own instruments or come prepared to dance. Wed., March 20, 7 p.m. Stargazers Theatre and Event Center, 10 S. Parkside Drive, 505-8653, ppbc@pikeSPEAKBLUES.org, PikeSPEAKBLUES.org.

Safe Harbor, a performance from the Black Rose Acoustic Society, featuring solos, duets and larger ensembles. Fri., March 22, 7 p.m. $4-$7. Black Forest Community Center, 12530 Black Forest Road, 528-6119, blackroseacoustic.org.

Sir James Galway, the internationally renowned flutist in concert with the Colorado Springs Phil-

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Thu. Mar. 28th - 8:00pm
AIR DUBAI
DROP SWITCH, GRITS & GRAVY
Sat. Mar. 30th - 7:00pm
EXHUMED
SINISTER CREED, EXECRATION, RHOGOG
Mon. Apr. 1st - 7:00pm
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EVEREST, ENVY CORPS
Wed. Apr. 3rd - 6:00pm
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FOR TODAY, THE CHARIOT
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APR 30 - CHUNK, NO CAPTAIN CHUNK!
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harmonic, Thomas Wilson conducting. Thurs., March 21, 8 p.m. Pikes Peak Center, 190 S. Cascade Ave., 520-7469, csphilharmonic.org.

DanceParties&Classes

Andante Blues Dance, a chance to dance this "distinctly American dance." A beginners lesson provided. No partner required. Fridays, 9 p.m. $4-$6 donation. Movement Arts Community Studio, 525 E. Fountain Blvd., #150, 963-1809, kkschmidt@lettucebrain.com, movementartscs.com.

Belly Dance Workshop, a pair of classes — one for beginners, the other advanced — with artist Sadie. Sat., March 23, 1 and 3:15 p.m. $25-$55. Marmalade at Smokebrush, 219 W. Colorado Ave., #210, 444-1012, smokebrush.org.

Progressive Blues, a progressive series of Lindy Hop classes focusing on vintage jazz moves. Wed., March 20, 8:30 p.m. $30 for all classes, $15 each. Movement Arts Community Studio, 525 E. Fountain Blvd., #150, 963-1809, movementartscs.com.

Spring Break Dance Workshop, a four-day dance workshop with Ballet Emmanuel, the Springs-based professional Christian ballet company. Ages 4-9 and 10 through adult; no dance experience necessary. March 25-28. $40-75. Turning Pointe School of Dance, 7667 N. Union Blvd., 433-8820, balletemmanuelcompany@gmail.com.

DancePerformances

Arabian Nights, a night of belly dance, featuring artist Sadie and performances from local dancers like Alicia Cover, Jaya and others. Sat., March 23, 8 p.m. $20-$25. Marmalade at Smokebrush, 219 W. Colorado Ave., #210, 444-1012, smokebrush.org.

A Classical Evening, a grand revue of the history of ballet. Ballerina Melian Izotova, danseur Misha Izotov and dancers from Grupo Folklorico del Pueblo join the Premiere corps for selections from *Les Sylphides*, *Sleeping Beauty* and more. Produced in part by Steel City Theatre Company and Colorado Ballet. Fri., March 22, 7 p.m. and Sat., March 23, 7 p.m. $5-10. Central High School, 216 E. Orman Ave., Pueblo, 719/347-1737, central.pueblocityschools.us.

Lord of the Dance, a production of this Irish music and dance show. Tues., March 26, 7:30 p.m. $38-$68. Pikes Peak Center, 190 S. Cascade Ave., 520-7469, pikespeakcenter.com.

Film

Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide, a documentary following women around the world as they work to pull themselves out of poverty, sex trafficking and other hardships and on to better lives. Thurs., March 21, 6:30 p.m. Free. UCCS' Dwire Hall, 1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy., 330-3463, uccs.edu.

PICK ***Phantoms in the Archives: Unlocking a Manitou Springs Mystery,*** the premiere screening of this documentary about Manitou's legendary Crawford sisters, with live music from the Changing Colors. A celebration of Emma Crawford's 150th birthday and of Manitou Springs Library joining the Pikes Peak Library District. Preregistration required. Sun., March 24, 1 and 3 p.m. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 531-6333 ext. 2253, ppld.org.

The Wedding Banquet, the Academy Award- and Golden Globe-nominated comedy of errors from *Brokeback Mountain* director Ang Lee, involving a gay couple in Manhattan, a green-card bride, and some overenthusiastic in-laws. Discussion moderated by Robert Von Dassanowsky, Director of the Film Studies program at UCCS. Wed., March 20, 7 p.m. $5-$7 Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St., 634-5583, csfineartscenter.org/Families.

Food&Drink

Dishcrawl Downtown Debut, the first Springs event from the Denver company, featuring four different downtown restaurants. Tues., March 26, 7 p.m. $45. 963-5085, dishcrawl.com/downtowndebut.

Passport to Italia, a five-course dinner paired with wine, and featuring sommelier Gabriel Roddy. Tues., March 26, 6 p.m. $49. Pizzeria Rustica, 2527 W. Colorado Ave., 632-8121, pizzeriarustica.com.

Pikes Peak Arts Fest seeks restaurants and food vendors to participate in the 2013 Pikes Peak Arts Fest, held in America the Beautiful Park on July 5-7. Applications available online; due Friday, March 29. 206/851-8386, pikespeakartsfest.com.

PICK **Pikes Peak Food and Wine Expo,** a fundraiser for the Colorado Restaurant Association featuring over 65 restaurants and drink providers; an *Iron Chef*-style competition; silent auction; prize wheel, and more. Sun., March 24, noon to 3 p.m. $25-$30. The Broadmoor, 1 Lake Ave., 633-0406, jakeandtellys@gmail.com, broadmoor.com.

Spring Wine Dinner, a celebration of the flavors of the new season with Chef Matt and Dirk of the Wine Seller, featuring six expertly paired courses. Reservations recommended. Thurs., March 21, 6:30 p.m. $55, plus tax and tip. Margarita at PineCreek, 7350 Pine Creek Road, 598-8667, coloradoeats.com/margarita/home.html.

PICK **"Women Who Fought as Men in the Civil War,"** a lecture from Benny Nasser and the Palmer Lake Historical Society. Thurs., March 21, 7 p.m. Free. Palmer Lake Town Hall, 42 Valley Crescent, Palmer Lake, palmerdividehistory.org.

GetInvolved

A Conversation with the Candidates, a chance to engage in small roundtable discussions with candidates for each of the six contested City Council seats. Thurs., March 21, 5:30 p.m. Penrose Pavilion, 2312 N. Nevada Ave., 577-7044, elpomar.org/what-we-do/programs/136-forum-for-civic-advancement/citycouncilcommunityroundtable.

Riparian Restoration on the Prairie, a chance to spend one to three days restoring a bird habitat. Barbecue, camping out and more will follow. March 22-24. Chico Basin Ranch, 22500 Peyton Hwy. S., Peyton, 683-7960, chicobasinranch.com.

Westside Public Transportation Open House, a presentation by the Westside Avenue Action Plan, following a six-month-long study of the 1½-mile segment of West Colorado and Manitou avenues between North 31st Street and the U.S. Highway 24 interchange. Residents are invited to learn more about the study and the next steps. Wed., March 20, 5-7 p.m. Westside Community Center, 1628 W. Bijou St., 385-7920, WestsideAvenuePlan.com.

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Health&Healing

"Awareness Through Movement," a series of six classes designed to "help you learn to move wisely and bring relaxation to your life." Fridays, through March 29. $15 per class. Yoga Journeys Studio, 709 N. Nevada Ave., #201.

Heart Support Group, a gathering of men, women and caregivers living with, helping with, or at risk for heart disease. Third Wednesday of every month, 6:30-8 p.m. Penrose Hospital Main, 2222 N. Nevada Ave., 200-2645, penrosestfrances.org.

Manitou Yoga, Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 8 a.m. $5. Business of Art Center, 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org.

Manitou Yoga School Teacher Training Info Night, a session for yoga practitioners interested in teaching. Semester runs April 9-June 4. Thurs., March 21, 7:15 p.m. Phoenix Yoga Lounge, 124 Ruxton Ave., Manitou Springs, 641-8325.

Medicine Wheel and 12 Steps for Youth, a three- to four-month course for youths who are at-risk for substance abuse. $15. Lotus Center for Self-Discovery, 2860 S. Circle Drive, #120, 229-8280, lotuscenterco.org.

Holiday

Fourth Annual Passover Seder, a full turkey dinner will be served with the seder. Tues., March 26. $20-$55. Temple Beit Torah, 522 E. Madison St., 573-0841, beit-torah.org.

Kids&Family

Easter Bunny Visits, a time of picture-taking, prizes and more. March 22-30. Citadel Mall, 750 Citadel Drive East, #3114, 591-2900, shopthecitadel.com.

Learn to Skate, an event for kids age 3 to 14. Registration required. Sat., March 23, 3-4 p.m. Free. World Arena, 3185 Venetucci Blvd., 477-2152, worldarena.com/ltsforfree.

Spring-Break Camp: Animal X-Factor, a chance for kids to learn about the talents and abilities of the animals at the zoo. March 25-29, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. $45.25-$50.25. Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, 4250 Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Road, 633-9925, cmzoo.org.

Lectures&Learning

"Basic Vegetable Gardening," a class from the Colorado State University Extension Office on starting to grow your own veggies. Thurs., March 21, 6:30-8:30 p.m. El Paso County Citizen's Service Center, 1675 W. Garden of the Gods Road. $10. 520-7688, elpasoco.colostate.edu/hort/hort.shtml.

'Green' Bag Lunch-N-Learn, a chance for businesses and multi-family housing owners to learn more about nonprofit iCAST's ResourceSmart program for energy upgrades and financial assistance. Thurs., March 21, 12:11-12:49 p.m. City Administration Building, 30 S. Nevada Ave., 385-5905, springsgov.com/calendar.aspx?view=event&eventid=1593.

"Lecture-Weather: Earth & Beyond," a presentation with Matt Meister, chief meteorologist at KRDO NewsChannel 13. Meister will talk about everything from Earthly weather patterns to solar flares and other extra-terrestrial phenomena. RSVP to attend. Sat., March 23, 2 p.m. $5 suggested donation, free for museum members. Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum, 215 S. Tejon St., 385-5990, cspm.org.

"Luck or Conscious Living?" a brown bag lunch workshop on how to use "yourself as a vehicle to all that is possible." Wed., March 20, 11 a.m. Free. Cottonwood Center for the Arts, 427 E. Colorado Ave., 520-3999, cottonwoodcenterforthearts.com.

Lunch and a Look at the Garden, a lecture from Brett Tennis titled "Wildlife in the Central Garden." Tues., March 26, 11:30 a.m. Free. Garden of the Gods Visitor & Nature Center, 1805 N. 30th St., 219-0108, gardenofgods.com.

"Machiavelli's Enterprise," a lecture from Dr. Harvey Mansfield in recognition of Niccolò Machiavelli's *The Prince* turning 500 years old. Mon., March 25, 3:30 p.m. CC's Worner Campus Center, 902 N. Cascade Ave., 389-6607, coloradocollege.edu.

"The Science of Planting Trees" and "What's Bugging Your Trees and Shrubs," a two-part class from the Colorado State University Extension Office on new methods for planting trees and the world of insects and diseases trees and bushes face. It will be held Tues., March 26 from 2-4 p.m. at the CSU Extension Office, 305 S. Union Blvd. and repeated Thurs., March 28 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the El Paso County Citizen's Service Center, 1675 W. Garden of the Gods Road. $10. 520-7688, elpasoco.colostate.edu/hort/hort.shtml.

Skills for Work: Teleseminars, a continuation of CPL's series designed to help you learn targeted skills to run a successful business, covering the technology of teleseminars and conference calls as tools for trainings, meetings and revenue creation. RSVP requested. Tues., March 26, 1:30 p.m. $10. Center for Powerful Living, 635 Southpointe Court, #220, 448-9000, info@centerforpowerfulliving.com, centerforpowerfulliving.com.

LiteraryEvents

Hear Here, an all-ages poetry open mic with special guest performers. Preceding the slam, a poetry writing workshop will be given at 6. Third and Fourth Friday of every month, 7 p.m. Marmalade at Smokebrush, 219 W. Colorado Ave., #210, 964-4499, tinyurl.com/hearhere719.

Women in the Writing World, a discussion of small press considerations and self-publishing with Doris Baker, owner of Filter Press in Palmer Lake. Thurs., March 21, 6:30-8 p.m. Covered Treasures Bookstore, 105 Second St., Monument, 481-2665.

Museums&Attractions

Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, 4250 Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Road, 633-9925, cmzoo.org/exhibitsAttractions/encounterAfrica. Encounter Africa "Work-in-Progress" Preview, a chance to view the elephants and black rhino acclimating to their outdoor exhibit, take photos with life-sized elephant sculptures and see the updated elephant barn before the May 1 grand opening of the exhibit. Through April 30.

El Pueblo History Museum, 301 N. Union Ave., Pueblo, 719/583-0453, coloradohistory.org/hist_sites/pueblo/pueblo.htm. *Sisters of Loretto*, a traveling exhibit detailing the history of this religious order that operated schools in Kentucky, Missouri and then in the Southwest Territory and Colorado. March 22 to July 27. Opening reception Fri., March 22, 5-7 p.m. $4-5.

Western Museum of Mining and Industry, 225 Northgate Blvd., 488-0880, 800/752-6558, wmmi.org. "Women's Work in the Mining Camp," a presentation on the achievements of women in the field. RSVP by March 20 for the March 23, 11 a.m. event. $4-$8. Colorado Women's Hall of Fame Portrait Gallery, a special exhibit in honor of National Women's History Month highlighting the heroines of Colorado history. Through March 31. $4-$8.

PICK **Downtown Studio Gallery at Pikes Peak Community College,** 100 W. Pikes Peak Ave., 502-4040, ppcc.edu/departments/art/pppcc-art-gallery. *AIR LIGHT BREATH*, an exhibit by Corey Drieth, Donny Dixon, DeLane Bredvik (pictured) and Tanya Gelster concerning "physical manifestations of ethereal phenomena." Through April 12.

Spirituality

Opening Your Spiritual Senses, a metaphysical workshop. Also addresses how to recognize and meet animal spirit guides. Reservations recommended. Fri., March 22, 6-9 p.m. and Sat., March 23, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Celebration Conscious Living Store, 2209 W. Colorado Ave., 460-3085,

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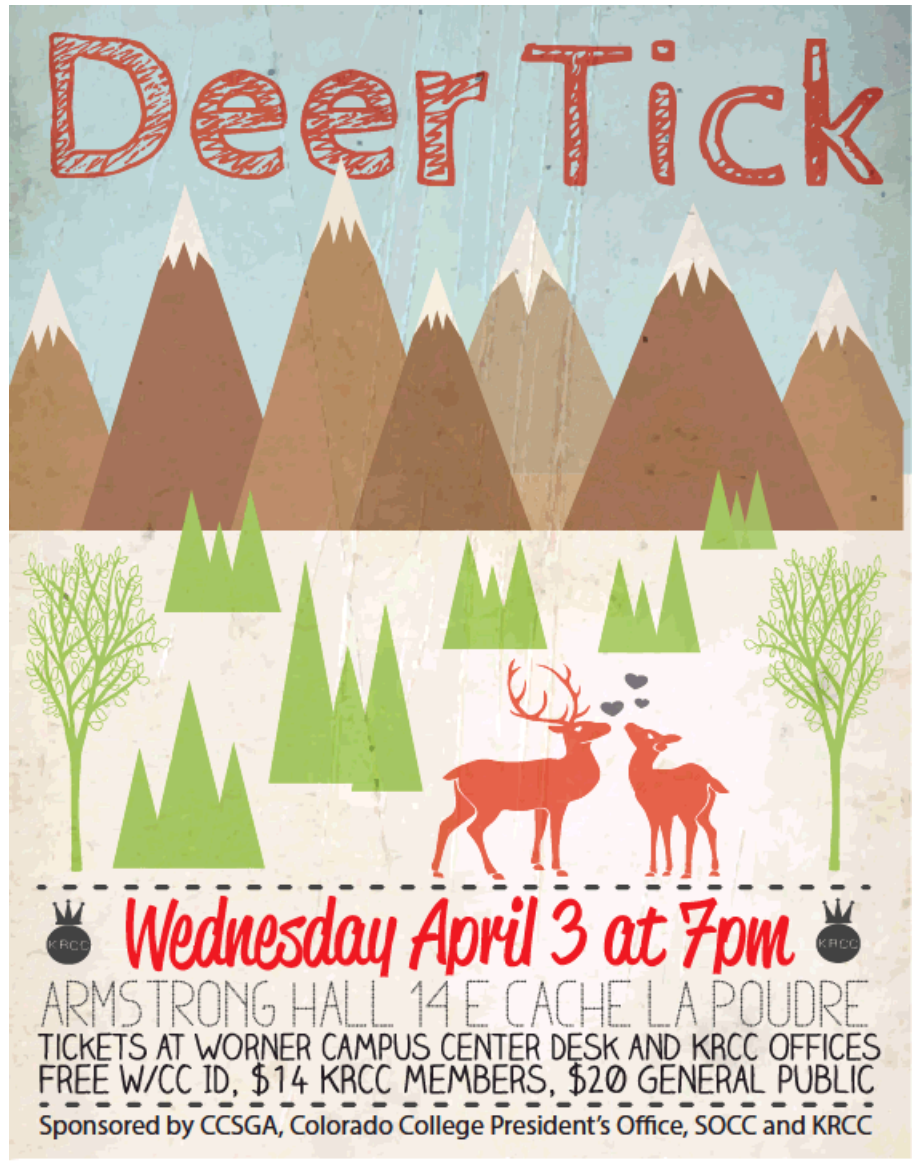
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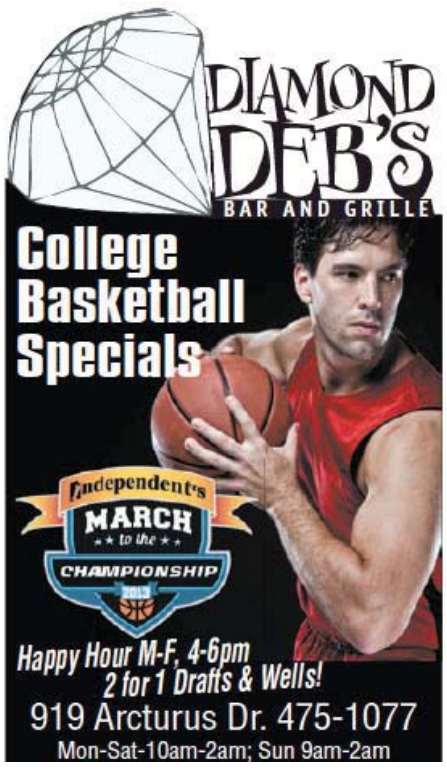

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What Do You Really Want?, an interactive workshop with motivational teacher Sandy Noll, exploring how to use the Law of Attraction to ask, believe and receive from the universe. Wed., March 20, 6:30-8 p.m. $25. Celebration Conscious Living Store, 2209 W. Colorado Ave., 391-3781, whatdoyoureallywant@live.com.

SpecialEvents

2013 Issues and Actions Forum, an event for political conservatives. Sat., March 23, noon to 5 p.m. $40-$100. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2886 S. Circle Drive, conservativesacttoday.org.

Fix-a-Leak Week, bring in two old showerheads and receive two new models free. Sat., March 23, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Springs Utilities Conservation and Environmental Center, 2855 Mesa Road, 448-4800, csu.org/wa/xeri/xeriscape.jsp.

Full Moon Tour, a one-hour tour with the wolves. Bring warm clothes, good boots and a camera. Sat., March 23, 5 p.m. $15-$25. Colorado Wolf & Wildlife Center, 4729 Twin Rocks Road, Divide, 687-9742, wolfeducation.org.

United Portuguese of Colorado Spring Dinner, a dinner of fish and potatoes, marinated pork, rice and bread; entertainment, dancing and more. Sat., March 23, 5:30 p.m. $7-$20. Holy Apostles Catholic Church, 4925 N. Carefree Circle, 229-1177, csportuguese@yahoo.com.

PICK **Business of Art Center,** 513 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, 685-1861, thebac.org. *Wunderkind*, the BAC's annual celebration of young artists from many local public and private schools, including Pikes Peak Prep, Pine Creek High School and the Fountain Valley School (pictured). *Wunderfotographie: A Retrospective*, an exhibition of student work from those who have studied photography with Lilian Critchlow over the past five years. *Wunderkind Alumni*, an exhibition of works from young local artists featured in previous editions of the BAC's annual Wunderkind show. All shows through April 20.

Sports&Recreation

American Distance Project seeks families willing to host Olympic-hopeful distance runners relocating to Colorado Springs to train with ADP, a locally based nonprofit. 704/408-6258, americandistanceproject.com.

Basketball Players aged 18 and up, are sought to join amateur teams. Contact Paladin, 338-4222.

Body Toning, a one-hour stretching and strengthening class. Tuesdays, 7 p.m. Free. Movement Arts Community Studio, 525 E. Fountain Blvd., #150, 554-6187, movementartscs.com.

Cancer Survivor Fitness Program, a basic eight-week strength and conditioning course. Dates/times flexible; call for more information. Ongoing. Phenom 1 Fitness, 1360 N. Academy Blvd., 330-4331, Lift4Life.org.

Pikes Peak Derby Dames Slamazons vs. Pueblo Derby Devil Dollz, an all-women's flat-track bout. Sat., March 23, 7 p.m. $15-$20. Colorado Springs City Auditorium, 221 E. Kiowa St., 385-5969, pikespeakderbydames.com.

Stage

Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Musical, a production based on the Caldecott Honor–winning picture book. The gist: "Girl loves stuffed animal. Girl loses beloved animal. Girl fights to get animal back." March 21-31. Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, 30 W. Dale St., 634-5581, csfineartscenter.org.

Legally Blonde the Musical, a performance of the Broadway by the Fort Carson Community Theater. Held in Building 1129. Through March 30. $10. Fort Carson, Highway 115, 524-3619, carson.army.mil.

Marisol, a post-apocalyptic story of self-discovery, loyalty and love amid a rapidly deteriorating reality. Fridays-Sundays, 8 p.m.; through March 31. $5-10. THEATREdART, 128 N. Nevada Ave., 357-8321, marisol.eventbrite.com.

Other Desert Cities, a performance by the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center Theatre Company of the family drama that was a finalist for the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. Through March 31. $18-$37. Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, SaGaJi Theater, 30 W. Dale St., 634-5583, csfineartscenter.org.

VolunteerOpportunities

Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance seeks an experienced grant writer for local nonprofit serving individuals and families affected by mood disorders. Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance, 2132 E. Bijou, #112, 477-1515, dbsacoloradosprings.org.

Educational Resource Development Trust is seeking families to host foreign exchange students for summer and school-year programs. All students are proficient in English. 800/321-3738, erdtshare.org.

Engineers Without Borders seeks volunteers to help with technical work and fundraising for its water project in Bolivia. E-mail or go online for more information. peisele@comcast.net, ewbcos.org.

Evercare Hospice and Palliative Care needs volunteers to assist patients and families as companion volunteers, massage therapy volunteers (must be licensed), healing touch volunteers (must be certified). Training provided. 265-1109.

First Visitor at Peak Vista seeks volunteers for this program, which helps provide free home support to families with children 0-3. 632-5700.

Fountain Creek Nature Center seeks teens 14 and up to volunteer as aides for Spring Break and Summer Nature Camps and special events. Participate in games, crafts and activities with small children; help with setup and cleanup. Call or e-mail for application. Fountain Creek Nature Center, 320 Peppergrass Lane, Fountain, 520-6745, nancybernard@elpasoco.com, elpasocountyparks.com.

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Listings is a free service we offer to our readers. If you'd like to publicize an event or notice, send us the details — who, what, where, when, how much and publishable contact information — in writing **by Wednesday at noon for the following Wednesday's paper**. If humanly possible, please do so at csindy.com: Simply click "Submit an event" at the bottom of the homepage, and the rest is self-explanatory. Other means of submission include e-mail (listings@csindy.com) or fax (577-4107). One-time events typically make it into the issue on the Wednesday leading up to that event; ongoing events sometimes are included in additional issues. That said, events are included on a space-available basis, meaning we can't ever guarantee a listing will make it into print. So we strongly discourage relying on Listings as your sole source of publicity — if you'd like to guarantee placement in the *Indy*, you can purchase an ad in our classifieds section or in our retail advertising section by calling 577-4545. Questions? E-mail listings@csindy.com or call 577-4545.

StrangerThanFiction

Curses, foiled again

After finding a gunman in his home in Lauderdale Lakes, Fla., Jacques Baillargeon, 66, sprayed window cleaner in his face. The robber dropped a crowbar and skullcap, and fled. Sheriff's officials traced Nathaniel Lee Smith, 29, to his home after he called 911 to report someone had broken into his home and stolen a crowbar and a skullcap matching those left behind. Investigators concluded that Smith reported the items missing to cover himself if they were traced to him. (*South Florida Sun-Sentinel*)

Mario Hili, 64, avoided thousands of dollars in traffic fines by reporting his car stolen each time a traffic camera caught him speeding or running a red light. After the latest incident, Senior Constable Siobhan Daly told an Australian court "it was the 21st time since 2000 that Hili had reported his car stolen. Each time he would find it himself at various locations around Geelong." Daly said that police fingerprinted the car and found only Hili's prints. (Australia's *Geelong Advertiser*)

Addicted to money

When Maureen O'Connor, 66, a former San Diego mayor, appeared in court to answer charges she stole $2,088,000 from a charitable foundation set up by her late husband, her lawyers disclosed she bet more than $1 billion at casinos to feed her gambling addiction. Noting that O'Connor began gambling after her husband, Jack-in-the-Box fast-food chain founder Robert O. Peterson, died in 1994, lawyer Eugene Iredale stated his client's actions fit "the syndrome known as grief gambling." She went through her fortune of between $40 million and $50 million, took out second and third mortgages on her home, auctioned her belongings and borrowed from friends. After O'Connor accepted a plea deal giving her two years to repay the foundation, Iredale declared, "This is a woman who has been through real trauma." (*The New York Times*)

Rita Crundwell, 60, pleaded guilty to stealing more than $54 million from Dixon, Ill., while she was the small town's comptroller. The thefts occurred over more than 20 years and funded a lavish lifestyle, which included prize-winning horses, expensive jewelry, luxury cars and extravagant parties. During this time, city officials said, her massive thefts crippled Dixon's budget. She blamed the shortfalls on an economic downturn and late payments from the state government. Noting that since her arrest, his client's cooperation with authorities in selling off assets toward restitution "has been extraordinary," public defender Paul Gaziano urged a short sentence. Instead, District Judge Philip Reinhard sentenced her to 19 years and seven months in prison, declaring, "You showed much greater passion for the welfare of your horses than the people of Dixon you represented." (*Chicago Tribune* and Associated Press)

Armed and dangerous

Authorities charged Timothy John Howard, 30, with robbing another man in Tulsa, Okla., by throwing porcelain tiles at him. (*Tulsa World*)

Police arrested Erik Brown, 36, in Port St. Lucie, Fla., saying he struck a teenage relative in the face with a Taco Bell burrito during a domestic dispute. Officers reported the victim had "burrito cheese, sauce and meat all over his clothing and face." (The Smoking Gun)

Police accused Ryan Herman, 23, of trying to take a dozen employees at a Wal-Mart in Glendale, Ariz., hostage by threatening them with a fire extinguisher. When police arrived and told Herman to drop the fire extinguisher, an officer said Herman raised it in a "threatening manner" and had to be Tasered. (Phoenix's *The Arizona Republic*)

Cloak of invisibility

A new fashion line aims to make wearers invisible to drone cameras. "Stealth Wear," by designer Adam Harvey, is made from silver-infused fabric that reflects heat, thereby blocking thermal-imaging cameras. "There's a lot of products in the stealth area that are too militaristic or are too associated with the tinfoil hat crowd," Harvey said. "I tried to do something that's in between." The line consists of a hoodie, which costs $473, and a burqa, which sells for $2,365. "These are really high-quality fashion garments, not everyday wear," said Harvey, who previously designed an "anti-paparazzi" handbag that detects and neutralizes camera flashes, and the OFF pocket, which disables cell phone signals. (*U.S. News & World Report*)

Compiled by Roland Sweet. Send clippings, citing source and date, to P.O. Box 8130, Alexandria, VA 22306.

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CannaBiz

Medical marijuana news of the week

King before country

Last Saturday, **Tom Gallagher** unexpectedly dropped out of the race to represent west-side District 3 on City Council. At the same time, he surprisingly endorsed well-financed, conservative former state Sen. **Keith King**. It all came almost exactly one month after a video posted to YouTube showed Gallagher asking for political funds from his main base of support, the medical-marijuana industry, which responded with more than $3,300 in donations.

"What instantly came to my mind was: What kind of a deal was brokered there?" says Judy Negley, whose Indispensary centers contributed $500 to Gallagher's campaign. "Who knows what was a factor — like I said, I haven't spoken with Tom — [but], like, what the hell? ... It's just kind of confounding, absolutely."

Neither Gallagher nor King responded to voicemails left by the *Independent*.

Obviously, there's curiousity about the fate of Gallagher's remaining money. As of press time, Gallagher had not filed a campaign-finance report since March 1; that report listed $3,132.07 on hand for the period between Feb. 15 and Feb. 28, all but $400 clearly tied to marijuana. But the endorsement of King raises other questions, too, especially considering Gallagher's record with the MMJ industry during his years on City Council.

"I think it would be difficult to replicate the kind of support that we would've expected to get from Tom," says Negley.

For instance, though King ignored campaign questionnaires from the *Indy* and the Colorado Springs Medical Cannabis Council, he described his position on marijuana to the *Gazette* this way: "We need to ban marijuana retail operations until the Legislature passes the bill to enable Amendment 64." Locally, he says, "stores must be kept out of residential areas" and related taxes should "help cover extra enforcement, legal costs and an educational program ..."

Also, during his last year in the Colorado Senate, he voted in favor of a failed attempt to create a THC-DUI limit for drivers, which the marijuana industry stridently opposes.

Thus: "No, I'm not gonna back King," says Mark Slaugh, membership director for the CSMCC. "We chose [candidate Jim] Bensberg as our backup.

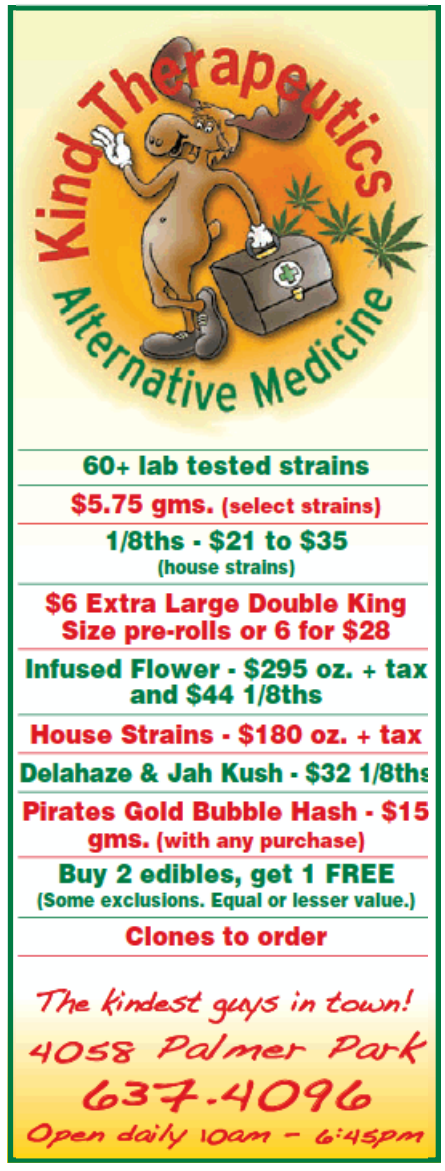
"And, honestly, I'm so ticked off at what Tom did, but I don't wanna have animosity there. It's just about moving forward."

Keef crumbs

• Reporting on Colorado's regulatory framework, the *Oregonian* spoke with Marco Vasquez at the **Medical Marijuana Enforcement Division**, who said the MMED's down to a "skeleton crew" of nine officers and a budget of $3.8 million, from $8.6 million.

• The **Joint Select Committee on the Implementation of the Amendment 64 Task Force Recommendations** — lawmakers taking up the next phase of the cause begun by volunteers — will meet publicly at 1:30 p.m., Friday, March 22 in the Old Supreme Court Chambers in the state Capitol building.

— Bryce Crawford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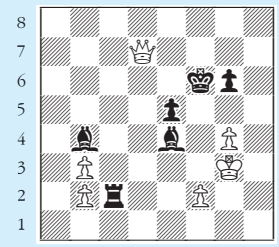

WHITE CLEANS UP
Hint: Make way for the queen.

For puzzle answers, see page 62

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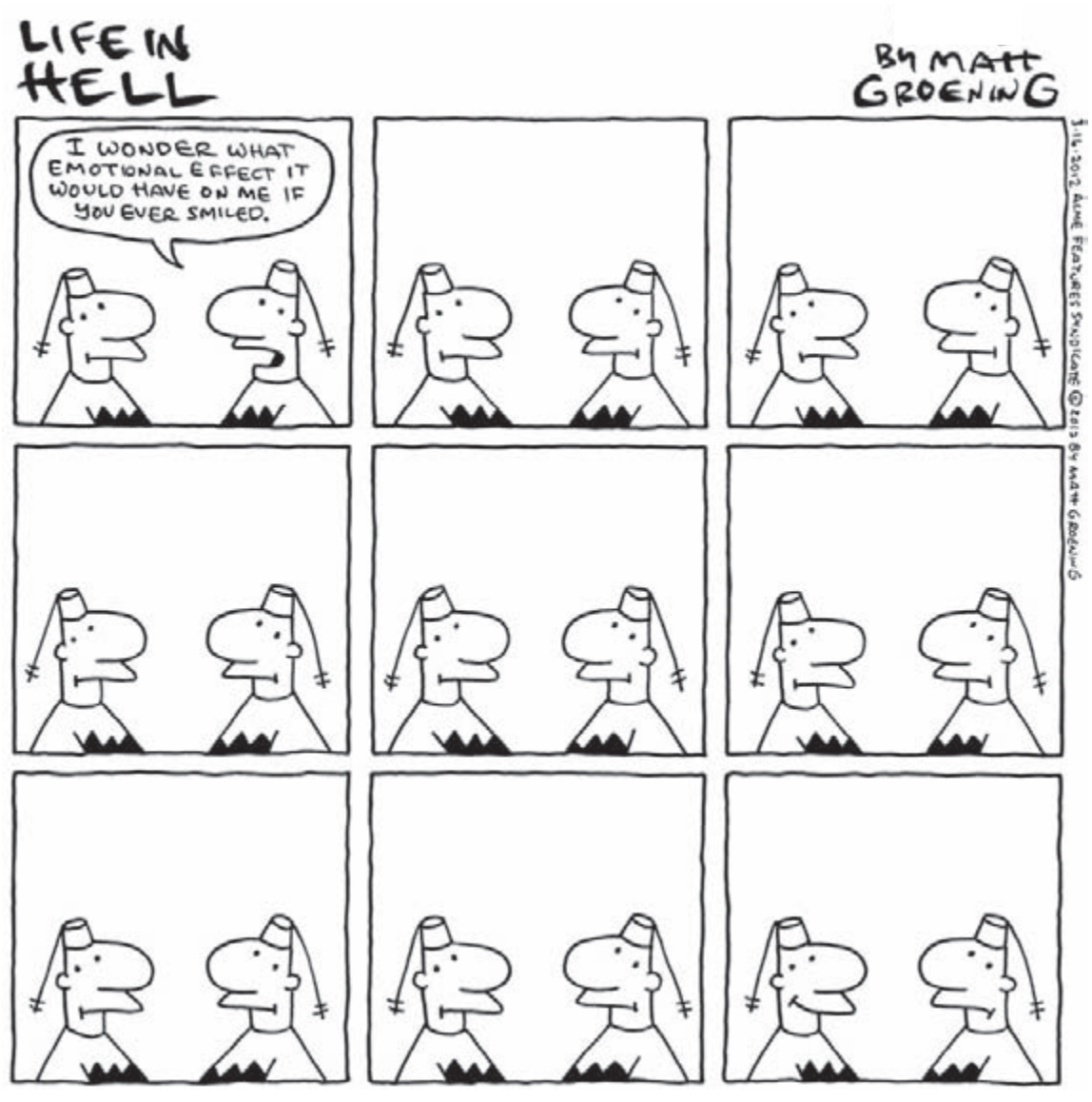

AdviceGoddess

By Amy Alkon

Madame Ovary

My wife needs a medical test that will involve her being naked in unflattering positions in front of another person, possibly male. I know she won't enjoy this and it certainly isn't sexual, but I want her to request a female gynecologist. She says she's embarrassed to do that, refuses to be controlled by me, and says having a male doctor doesn't bother her. Well, it bothers me terribly. I'm fairly young and not religious, but I was taught that a couple's bedroom — what happens there, their nude bodies, etc. — is for them alone. I'm not insecure, and I know she isn't leaving me, but I strongly feel that her being seen naked by a male practitioner violates the sanctity and intimacy of our marriage, and I can't help but feel like it's cheating. — Distressed

It's pretty hard to confuse an exam room with a singles bar — unless the singles bars you've experienced have men leaning over and asking women, "So ... when was your last period?" and "Do you leak urine?"

Cheating involves having a romance with a person other than your partner, not having him give you a Pap smear. Also, male doctors generally have a female nurse present while examining a female patient (so they won't be accused of any funny business). There will be that rare Dr. Pervo, but according to doctors I spoke to, by week two of their residency, bodies might as well be giant steaks. So, for a male doctor, your wife's "special area" is anything but special; it's the seventh vagina he's seen before lunch.

For a male doctor, it's the seventh vagina he's seen before lunch.

Stamping your feet and denying the obvious — that there's a vast difference between medical touch and sexual touch — helps you manipulate your wife with this ridiculous notion that she "violates the sanctity" of your marriage by getting a male doctor in rotation. So, according to you, what's special about your marriage is just that since you tied the knot, no other man has been assigned to see your wife naked (in a setting more in keeping with performing an autopsy than staging a seduction). Take your "logic" a step further and your wife is two-timing you by even speaking to people who aren't you, and never mind that she isn't exactly revealing her deepest hopes, dreams and fears to some man in line behind her at the mall.

People in loving relationships will often accommodate their partner's ridiculous requests simply to make them happy. Your wife might've been more willing to do that if only you'd appealed to her sympathy instead of demanding that she do all the changing while you lift nary a brain cell to consider whether your position might be unreasonable. (Refusing to even consider another person's point of view generally causes them to cling even more firmly to it.) Of course, if only you'd look at this through reason-colored glasses, you'd probably acknowledge the reality: If somebody does come between you and your wife, it's unlikely to happen while she's upset, afraid, and grossed out during a medical test. And give doctors a little credit. If you're a doctor, a woman will take her pants off for you because you drive a sports car. There's really no need to come up with some ploy about scraping her cervix for cancerous cells.

Bed, bath and beyond disappointing

For Valentine's Day, my boyfriend of two months gave me a gift basket of smelly lotions and shaped soaps. Not my kind of thing, but even more not my thing because I recognized it as a regift of something somebody gave his mom. When I met his parents, this basket was in his mom's bathroom. He's seemed sweet so far, but maybe this gift says he's just using me. — Overscented

Ideally, if you're surprised on Valentine's Day, it isn't because your boyfriend's given you that gift that says he cares enough to look under his mom's bathroom sink and see what's still in the package. (Good thing she'd already cracked into that gallon jug of toilet bowl cleaner.) There are several possible explanations for his gift: A. He doesn't care. B. He doesn't have a clue. C. He does care, but Valentine's Day popped up early in the relationship, and he went back and forth on how much lovey-dovey to express — until he ended up at the last-minute gift counter in his mom's bathroom. Give him the gift of time. Paying attention to how he treats you over the next few months will tell you whether he's caring and maybe clueless or whether all he cared about was placating you with whatever gifting roadkill he came upon. You can't train a guy to adore you. A woman can work with caring and clueless — although when her birthday rolls around, she may find herself doing it from behind the wheel of his mom's almost-new car.

***Got a problem? Write Amy Alkon, 171 Pier Ave., #280, Santa Monica, CA 90405, or e-mail adviceamy@aol.com (advicegoddess.com). Alkon is the author of* I See Rude People: One Woman's Battle To Beat Some Manners Into Impolite Society.**

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Complete the grid so that every row, column, diagonal and 3x3 box contain the numbers 1 to 9. Use logic to define the answers. Answers on page 62

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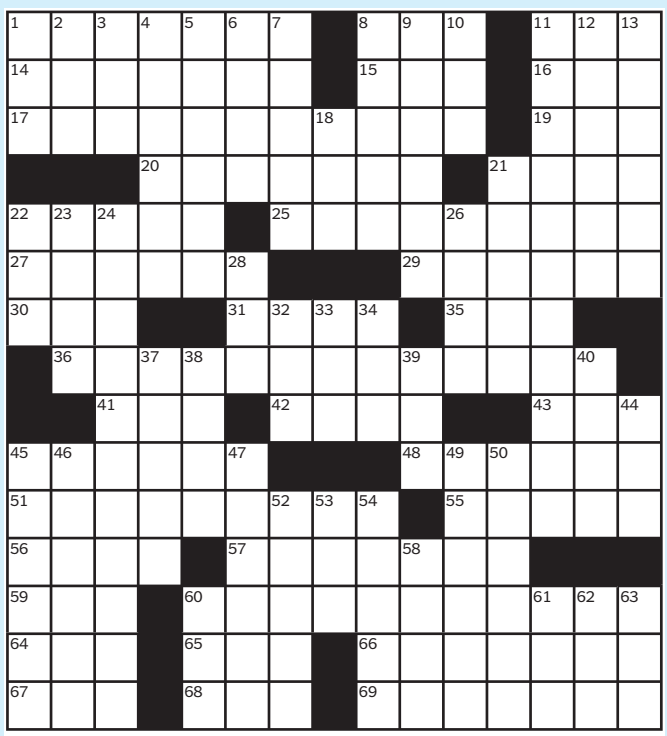

The New York Times Crossword

ACROSS

1 Blood bank supplies
8 Foliage-viewing mo.
11 Welcome sign for a B'way angel
14 Dental deposits
15 P, to Pythagoras
16 Pricing word
17 Senior softballers, e.g.?
19 LAX monitor info
20 "The Turner Diaries" conflict
21 ___ Flux (Charlize Theron role)
22 Star in Cygnus
25 K-9 Corps member?
27 Gooey camp fare
29 CNN's Barnett and others
30 Counterpart of long.
31 Had down cold
35 Descartes's "sum," translated
36 Former first lady sporting a different outfit?
41 El Al hub city
42 Tries to win
43 Make "it"
45 Greyhound lookalike
48 Magician's hiding spot
51 Small-screen performance of "Hamlet," e.g.?
55 Missed the mark
56 Thai currency
57 Broadway title character who sings "Tea for Two"
59 Vacation time in Versailles
60 King, queen or jack?
64 Lineage-based women's org.
65 Ore suffix
66 Sparkly component of face paint
67 'Fore
68 Leftorium owner on "The Simpsons"
69 Teeter-totters

DOWN

1 Fig. on an I.R.S. schedule
2 "Well, ___-di-dah!"
3 Barley wine, really
4 Fun house worker, maybe
5 Zimbabwean strongman Robert
6 Author Waugh
7 Lesser-played half of a 45
8 Nymph of Mount Ida, e.g.
9 Use plastic
10 Certain turkey
11 Dash component
12 Prepare for next year's models, say
13 Cousins of chimps
18 Pan Am rival
21 "What ___" ("Ho-hum")
22 Cable alternative, for short
23 Mus. key with four sharps
24 A few bricks short of a load
26 CNN's Burnett
28 One of a biathlete's pair
32 Common packaging word
33 "The Name of the Rose" author
34 "___ knows?"
37 Try to win
38 Pittsburgh radio station since 1920, said to be the world's first
39 Fool
40 Humorist Barry
44 Many a H.S. dropout's goal … and what's added to 17-, 25-, 36-, 51- and 60-Across
45 "Venerable" monk of old England
46 First movie to gross more than $2 billion (2009)
47 Put a match to
49 Allow to expire
50 Puts up
52 Relaxed
53 Paternity suit evidence
54 Safecrackers
58 Prefix with cast
60 Rouge or blanc selection
61 ___ crossroads
62 FF's opposite, on a VCR
63 "ER" personnel

For puzzle answers, please see pg. 62

From NYT Syndicate

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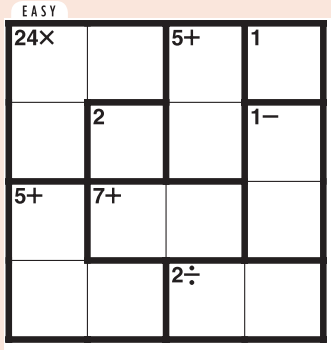
LISTEN UP!
CHECK OUT OUR PLAYING AROUND LISTINGS ON PAGE 44
Independent

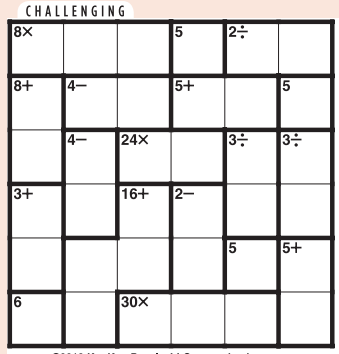
KENKEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

EASY



CHALLENGING



Fill the grid with digits so as not to repeat a number in any row or column, and so that the digits within each heavily outlined cage will produce the target number show by using addition, subtraction, multiplication or division. A 4x4 grid uses the digits 1,2,3,4, while a 6x6 grid uses the numbers 1-6.

For puzzle answers, see page 62

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RULES

1. Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
2. The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.
3. Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

FreeWillAstrology

By Rob Brezsny

ARIES (March 21-April 19): "Nourish beginnings, let us nourish beginnings," says poet Muriel Rukeyser in her poem "Elegy in Joy." "Not all things are blest," she continues, "but the seeds of all things are blest. The blessing is in the seed." I urge you to adopt this perspective in the coming weeks, Aries. Be extra sweet and tender and reverent toward anything that is just sprouting, toward anything that is awakening, toward anything that invokes the sacredness of *right now*. "This moment," sings Rukeyser, "this seed, this wave of the sea, this look, this instant of love."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): As you seek more insight on your current situation, consider the possibility that the bad guys may not be as bad as they seem. They might simply be so deeply under the spell of their own pain that they can't see straight. And as for the good guys: I wonder if they are as purely good as they would like you to imagine. It might be the case that they are at least partially serving their own self-interest, while pretending to be utterly altruistic. If there's any truth to these speculations, Taurus, you'd be wise to stay uncommitted and undecided for now. Don't get emotionally riled up, don't get embroiled in conflict, and don't burn any bridges.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Here's your mantra: "I get fresher under pressure." Say it 10 times right now, and then repeat it in 10-repetition bursts whenever you need a tune-up. What it means is that you stay cool when the contradictions mount and the ambiguities multiply. And more than that: You actually thrive on the commotion. You get smarter amidst the agitation. You become more perceptive and more creative as the shifts swirl faster and harder. Tattoo these words of power on your imagination: "I get fresher under pressure."

CANCER (June 21-July 22): "Stories happen to those who tell them," said the ancient Greek historian Thucydides. Modern radio journalist Ira Glass goes even further. "Great stories happen to those who can tell them," he has said. Let's make this strategy a centerpiece of your life plan in the weeks ahead, Cancerian. I have a suspicion that you will need first-hand experience of novel, interesting stories. They will provide the precise nourishment necessary to inspire the blooming of your most soulful ambitions. One way to help ensure that the best stories will flow your way is to regale receptive people with transformative tales from your past.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "Dear Rob: I'm spreading the word about Beer Week in your town, and I'd love to see you and your beer-loving readers at some of the events. Any chance you can include some coverage of Beer Week celebrations in your upcoming column? Cheers, Patricia." Dear Patricia: I don't do product placement or other forms of secret advertising in my horoscopes. To allow it would violate the sacred trust I have with my readers, who rely on me to translate the meaning of the cosmic signs without injecting any hidden agendas. It is true that Leos might be prone to imbibing great quantities of beer in the coming week, simply because they'd benefit from lowering their inhibitions, getting in touch with their buried feelings and expanding their consciousness. But to be frank, I'd rather see them do that without the aid of drugs and alcohol.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Hoping to stir up some fun trouble, I posted the following message on my Facebook page: "Don't judge someone just because they sin differently than you." A torrent of readers left comments in response. My favorite was from Sue Sims, who said, "Yeah, they might be better at your kind of sin and you might learn something!" That advice is just the kind of healing mischief you need right now, Virgo. It's a bit ironic, true, but still: Take it and run with it. Study the people who have mad skills at pulling off the rousing adventures and daring pleasures and interesting "sins" that you'd like to call your own.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The French verb *renverser* can be translated as "to turn upside-down" or "to reverse the flow." The adjectival form is *renversant*, which means "stunning" or "astonishing." I think you may soon have experiences that could be described by those words. There's a good chance that a dry, impoverished part of your life will get a juicy, fertile infusion. A deficiency you have worried about might get at least half-filled. An inadequacy that makes you feel sad may be bolstered by reinforcements. Alas, there could also be a slight reversal that's not so gratifying. One of your assets may temporarily become irrelevant. But the trade-off is worth it, Libra. Your gains will outstrip your loss.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Professor Martyn Poliakoff creates short Youtube videos to help teach the public about chemistry. In one video, he explains why an explanation he gave in a previous video was completely mistaken. "It's always good for a scientist to be proved wrong," he confesses cheerfully. Then he moves on to speculate about what the right answer might be. I love humility like that! It's admirable. It's also the best way to find out the truth about reality. I hope you will summon a similar attitude in the coming weeks, Scorpio: a generous curiosity that makes you eager to learn something new about stuff you thought you had all figured out.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): On the one hand, menopausal women are no longer able to bear children. On the other hand, they often overflow with fresh possibilities and creative ideas. More time is available to them because their children have moved out of the house or don't require as much care. They can begin new careers, focus on their own development and devote more attention to their personal needs. So in one way their fertility dries up; in another way it may awaken and expand. I suspect that whether or not you are menopausal, you are on the cusp of a comparable shift in your fecundity: one door closing, another door swinging open.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The TV reality show *Freaky Eaters* profiled a woman named Kelly who had eaten nothing but cheesy potatoes for 30 years. Her average intake: eight pounds of potatoes and four cups of cheese per day. "I love cheesy potatoes," she testified. "They're stewy, gooey, and just yum-yum-yummy. They're like crack to me." I'm a bit concerned that you're flirting with behavior comparable to hers. Not in regard to cheesy potatoes, of course, but to some other fetish. I will ask you to make sure that you're not starting to over-specialize. It would be wise to avoid obsessing on a single type of *anything*.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): In the 17th century, polite people referred to mountains as "warts" and "boils on the earth's complexion." So says Robert Macfarlane in his book *Mountains of the Mind*. Annie Dillard describes the peculiar behavior of educated European tourists in the 18th century. When they visited the Alps, she writes in *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*, "they deliberately blindfolded their eyes to shield themselves from the evidence of the earth's horrid irregularity." Don't be anything like those dumb sophisticates, Aquarius. When you spy irregularities in the coming weeks, consider the possibility that they are natural and healthy. This will allow you to perceive their useful beauty.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You are not for sale. Remember? Your scruples and ideals and talents cannot be bought off for any amount of money. You will not be cheated out of your birthright and you will not allow your dreams to be stolen. Although it's true that you may have to temporarily rent your soul from time to time, you will never auction it off for good. I'm sure you know these things, Pisces, but I suspect it's time to renew your fiery commitment to them.

HOMEWORK: Describe what you'd be like if you were the opposite of yourself. Write Freewillastrology.com.

Go to **RealAstrology.com** to check out Rob Brezsny's **EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES** and **DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES**. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at **1-877-873-4888** or 1-900-950-7700.

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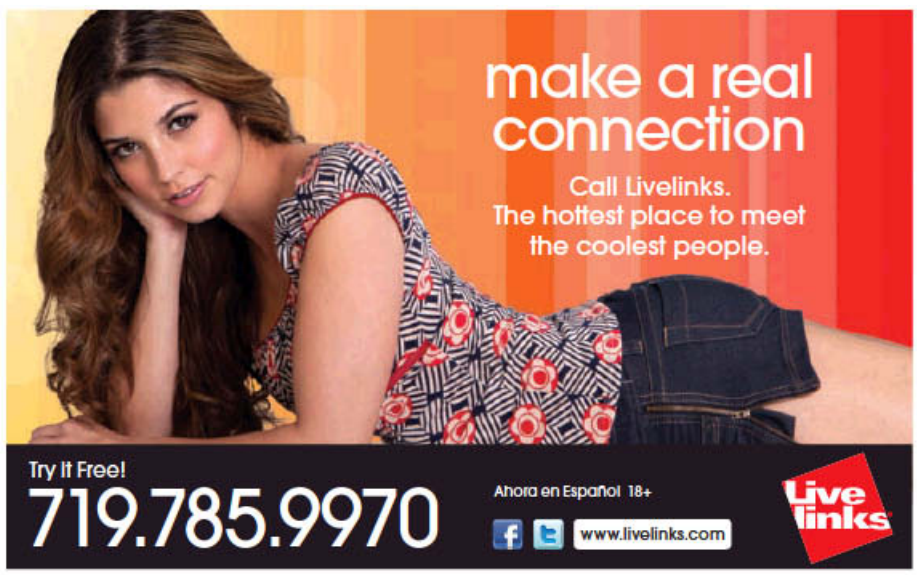

SUDOKU

9	6	4	1	8	5	7	2	3
8	7	2	9	6	3	5	4	1
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3	4	8	6	9	7	1	5	2
7	5	9	3	2	1	8	6	4
1	2	6	5	4	8	3	7	9
2	3	1	7	5	6	4	9	8
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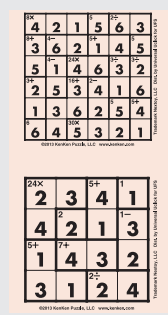
6	9	7	8	1	4	2	3	5

KENKEN



Crossword

P	L	A	S	M	A	S	■	O	C	T	■	S	R	O
C	A	L	C	U	L	I	■	R	H	O	■	P	E	R
T	H	E	A	G	E	D	T	E	A	M	■	E	T	A
■	■	■	R	A	C	E	W	A	R	■	A	E	O	N
D	E	N	E	B	■	B	A	D	G	E	D	D	O	G
S	M	O	R	E	S	■	■	■	E	R	R	O	L	S
L	A	T	■	■	K	N	E	W	■	I	A	M	■	■
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B	A	H	T	■	N	A	N	E	T	T	E	■	■	■
E	T	E	■	V	I	S	A	G	E	D	C	A	R	D
D	A	R	■	I	T	E	■	G	L	I	T	T	E	R
E	R	E	■	N	E	D	■	S	E	E	S	A	W	S

CHESS QUIZ

From page 57:

1. g5ch! Kxg5 2. Qg4ch Kf6 3. Qxe4 (attacks both bishop and rook).

EndZone

By Ralph Routon

Your best bracket tips

If you're like most people, you didn't really follow college basketball this season — until the NCAA Tournament bracket came out Sunday afternoon.

Now you want to become an instant expert to win big bucks in that office pool, or at your favorite tavern or, of course, in the *Independent*-sponsored online contest at marchtothechampionship.com. But it's not easy to fill out your projected winners in that blank bracket without really knowing the difference between Creighton, Belmont and Bucknell.

Not to worry. You've come to the right place, as in past years, for helpful strategy, dos and don'ts, and a few favorites and longshots to watch. No sense wasting time, so let's get started:

• Don't try to pick a bunch of upsets. The less you really know, the smarter it is to follow most teams' seeding in the early rounds, going with the higher seeds. Yes, you'll miss the big surprises, but so will almost everyone else.

• If you're a fan of a certain team or conference, don't let that bias sway your picks. Don't just blindly pick Colorado over Illinois in the first round because you like the Buffs. They actually have a tough draw, facing Illinois first and likely Atlantic Coast champion Miami (Fla.) after that. Colorado State has to face Missouri, also a challenging test, followed by overall No. 1 seed Louisville. Ouch.

• Later in the bracket, it's OK to pick a No. 3 or 4 seed to go as far as the Final Four. And feel free to hang your hat on one real longshot, because underdogs have made a few noteworthy surprises in recent years. Of course, that's why teams like Butler, Virginia Commonwealth and Gonzaga aren't overlooked anymore.

• Pay attention to this list of teams noticeably underseeded, based on their computer rankings: Minnesota, Mississippi, Wichita State, Oregon and Missouri. Several of that group probably will win at least their first game.

• If you're itching to predict upsets at the start, focus on No. 11s against No. 6s, or No. 12s against No. 5s. For example, Oregon (12) against Oklahoma State (5), Minnesota (11) against UCLA (6), California (12) against Nevada-Las Vegas (5), and Belmont (11) against Arizona (6). The key is picking the right ones. Most "experts" think Minnesota will knock off UCLA, which has injury issues.

• This year's No. 1 seeds are weaker than usual; several would have been No. 3 or 4 in other years. So the second and third seeds in most regionals should go far. Look closely at Miami (No. 2 in the East), New Mexico (No. 3 in the West) and Florida (No. 3 in the South).

• The way to win most pools and brackets is making the right predictions in the second and third rounds. For instance, in the East, Butler (6) might sink Marquette (3) in the second round. Or in the South, Virginia Commonwealth (No. 5) could reach the Elite Eight.

• My best longshots — meaning they're seeded No. 4 or worse — to make a long run: Midwest, St. Louis (4) or Memphis (6); South, Virginia Commonwealth (5) or North Carolina (8); East, Syracuse (4) or Butler (6); West, Wichita State (9) or Iowa State (10).

• Don't expect too much from the Mountain West Conference, despite its strong computer ranking and five NCAA berths. League champion New Mexico looks like the only one capable of advancing beyond the first weekend. The rest have rugged opening opponents: CSU vs. Missouri, San Diego State vs. Oklahoma, UNLV vs. California (probably followed by Syracuse), and Boise State in a play-in game followed by Kansas State.

• One thought for a huge early shocker that nobody will predict: In the East, Davidson (14) could stun Marquette (3).

• My Final Four: Louisville, Florida, Miami and New Mexico. For early rounds, go to marchtothechampionship.com, sign up and find them there. Good luck.

— routon@csindy.com

SPORTS SHOT

Positive sign **Looks like two pitchers, Jhoulys Chacin and Jorge De La Rosa, are ready to anchor the Colorado Rockies' starting rotation, but for how long?**

What next? **Air Force officials insist they will do all they can to avoid killing four varsity sports (volleyball, men's and women's soccer, and men's cross-country) as a result of budget cuts; Army and Navy haven't said if they might be affected.**

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All New 2013 SUBARU FORESTER 2.5x

$199/MONTH - $1000 DUE

MSRP $22,490
MODEL CODE DFA PACKAGE 21
STOCK #130840

42 month closed end lease , $199/month plus tax.
$1000 due at signing, plus first month's payment and taxes.
10,000 miles per year. WAC. No security deposit required.

COMPETITIVE COMPARISON

FEATURES	2013 Subaru Forester 2.5X Premium	2013 Honda CR-V EX	2013 FORD Escape SEL	2013 Nissan Rogue SV
All-Wheel Drive	YES	YES (opt.)	YES (opt.)	YES (opt.)
The Most Award-Winning Small SUV	YES	NO	NO	NO
2012 IIHS Top Safety Pick	YES	YES	YES	NO
City/Highway Miles Per Gallon	21city / 27hwy	22city / 30hwy	23city / 33hwy	22city / 26hwy
MSRP**	$24,295	$25,845	$28,170	$25,050

MSRP $21,065
MODEL CODE DAA PACKAGE 01
STOCK #130741

All New 2013 SUBARU LEGACY 2.5i

$139/MONTH $1000 DUE

42 month closed end lease , $139/month plus tax. $1000 due at signing, plus first month's payment and taxes. 10,000 miles per year. WAC. No security deposit required.

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- Online at BestBuySubaru.com
- Or Call TODAY for a quick, easy no hassle price over the phone!

All New 2013 SUBARU IMPREZA 2.0i

$149/MONTH $1000 DUE

42 month closed end lease , $149/month plus tax. $1000 due at signing, plus first month's payment and taxes. 10,000 miles per year. WAC. No security deposit required.

MSRP $18,665
MODEL CODE DJA PACKAGE 01
STOCK #132264

All New 2013 SUBARU OUTBACK 2.5i

$219/MONTH $1000 DUE

42 month closed end lease , $219/month plus tax. $1000 due at signing, plus first month's payment and taxes. 10,000 miles per year. WAC. No security deposit required.

MSRP $24,290
MODEL CODE DDA PACKAGE 01
STOCK #130256

*Based on Polk registration data in the U.S. 2002-2012. – Based on manufactures' website data as of January 2013 for the 2013 Subaru Forester 2.5X Premium , 2013 Honda CR-V EX 4WD, 2013 Ford Escape XLS 4WD, 2013 Nissan Rogue SV. **MSRP excludes destination and delivery charges, tax title and registration fees. Dealer sets actual price. ***EPA-estimated fuel economy for Forester 2.5X models. Actual mileage may vary.

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